

# THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE;

AND

## Journal of Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

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### THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

FOURTH MEETING, EDINBURGH: JOURNAL.  
No. II.

On Wednesday, the 10th, the early morning was auspicious, and the sun was really seen, though not altogether as the "glorious Apollo." He was, however, sufficiently visible and bright to enable M. Arago to obtain a certificate, on the affidavits of three witnesses, that there was occasionally such a luminary in Scotland, and that he had been fortunate enough to be present on one of these occasions. The same eminent foreigner is, it seems, a terrestrial wit, as well as a celestial observer. Somebody, during the preceding season of perpetual rain, congratulated him on not being drowned: "I can swim," was the playful answer. This accomplishment became again necessary in the evening, and all the next day; but Friday and Saturday made amends by their fineness, and enabled strangers to explore the numerous beauties of this splendid city to advantage, a pleasure which was much enjoyed in every direction, from Arthur's Seat and the Pentlands to Corstorphine Hills and Craigleith Quarry\* with its fossil tree, of which about twenty-four feet are now uncovered.

The animation of Edinburgh increased daily with the influx of visitors, till at the close on Saturday, nearly 1300 members were inscribed on the rolls of the Association, of whom about 400 were at least of a year's standing, and about 900 were new accessions, the greater portion perhaps resident in the place, who joined merely for the hour, and for the sake of witnessing the exhibition of the Philosophical Lions in the public assemblies, where they were shewn off in all their attributes, geological, botanical, chemical, entomological, zoological, mathematical, statistical, mineralogical, conchological, ornithological, anatomical, medical, physical, psychological, oratorical, &c. &c.

The various sections got to work before twelve o'clock, and of what they did we hope to be able to render an accurate account in this paper, though the confusion incident to the meeting throughout, in consequence of various causes to which we shall allude, has rendered it impossible in the first instance personally to collect any thing like adequate information. The truth is, that the organisation has been very incomplete and unsatisfactory. It might have led to less inconvenience and fewer disappointments had the meeting consisted of original

members, with the access of moderate additions; but the numbers of the idle and curious who were admitted, (many of them with the benefit of being known to the local managers, which procured them favours not condescended to strangers) literally pushed their predecessors, the "Constants," from their stools; and had it not been for the unbounded private hospitalities of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, the persons composing the main body of the Association who were unfortunate enough not to be recognised by any of the leading juntas, would have had very little whereupon to congratulate themselves for their visit to the northern Athens.

We offer these remarks without offence, and for the sake of the future prosperity of the Institution, which has become so unwieldy, that unless the utmost pains are bestowed upon systematising its anniversaries, and excluding favouritism, and extending the attentions of the authorities for the time being to all,\* and not making its chief features itinerant and popular display, it must soon lose its every valuable characteristic, and become a thing of scorn and laughter instead of science and utility. The lesson of this year will not, we trust, be thrown away upon the next; and, indeed, we understand that Mr. John Phillips, the laborious and able secretary, is already instructed to devote several weeks to preliminary preparation previous to the ensuing assembly at Dublin, on the 10th of August, 1835. We hope also that one of our suggestions of last year will be acted upon, and printed bulletins of the business, &c. of the day be issued every morning, to inform the members what is to be done. Here no one seemed to know any thing of the matter, and the wanderers about, asking what they could not learn, presented a sight both ludicrous and provoking. Some of the points, however, connected with these subjects will be again touched upon in our details; and we resume the thread of narration.

Hearing that Mr. Liston, the celebrated, and justly celebrated, surgeon, was to perform some operations this forenoon, we went to the theatre of the Infirmary; and if it were possible to say we received delight there was so much of immediate human suffering, we would say we were delighted with the scene. The firm, cool, grave, and collected manner of this eminent chirurgeon struck us exceedingly. A diseased finger was removed like the paring of a nail; the dreadful operation of lithotomy on a boy of five years old, occupied about a minute, and a calculus larger than a nut was extracted; in a male adult subject, the metatarsal and larger bone of the foot were cut out with surprising skill, and by this most difficult process the whole limb preserved, instead of a fine young man being maimed for life by amputation. Other remarkable instances need not be told; but the whole, if not gratifying to the sight,

\* We have to notice with great approbation the marked attentions which were paid to the scientific foreigners who were present. In this respect, nothing could be in better taste; and Arago, Moll, Agassiz, and others, must have been highly gratified with their reception.

was truly gratifying to the reflection—the pain was severe, but it was temporary; the benefit lasting as existence itself. Among the patients we may mention a curious case, fit enough for the section of entomology across the street: it was that of a boy into whose neck a tick (such as infests animals) had insinuated its head and shoulders, and there had stuck for a fortnight, gorging itself with his blood, and increasing wonderfully in size. Its posterior extremities resembled a large wart. It could readily be removed, it was stated, by the application of an essential oil, without having recourse to the knife. It affords us pleasure to add that, on inquiry some days after, we found that the parties in whose fate we had become so much interested were all doing well and recovering rapidly. So much for a surgical digression.

At the evening assembly, Dr. Lardner delivered a lecture on Babbage's calculating machine. The rooms were crowded to suffocation, and the ladies attentive; but the want of models was felt in the explanations, however lucidly given in other respects by the learned lecturer. Among the new importations at this time we observed Lord Fitzwilliam, Mrs. Opie, Sir Pulteney Malcolm, and David Wilkie.

Thursday the 11th was ushered in by a Scotch breakfast, given by the College of Physicians to about three hundred members of the Association; and the only general entertainment we are aware of which the occasion called forth. The successive failure of two bankers crippled the local fund, which might have been expended on some social reunion; and as for the great exertions of the nobility and gentry around in *fête-ing* the tramontans, we confess that our only acquaintance with them was formed on two or three of the laudatory speeches delivered from the *plat-form*. Certainly they led to no result in common; though, no doubt, their influence was felt by the prominent, and active, and more distinguished members, whose rank or celebrity entitled them to special invitations. In the evening the assembly-room was again more than filled, and Professor Buckland charmed the womenkind by a lecture on the antediluvian animals, whose remains are now so frequently brought to light from their various stony beds, where they have lain for thousands of years. This interesting branch of inquiry has been particularly happy in being improved by the present meeting. The remarks of Mr. Agassiz on several specimens corrected old errors, opened new views, and brought out remarkable conclusions. Some new genera of fish (five, we believe,) were discovered in the nodules of Sutherlandshire; and the Lothian relics, which have led to so much controversy, were pretty well determined to belong to freshwater deposits. The scales of other fish found on some of the coal exhibited by Lord Greenock, and which had hardly if at all been distinguished from vegetable remains, also enabled this intelligent foreigner to pronounce with decision upon the species of formation.

\* Among the many interesting scenes to be witnessed in the environs, Craigleith Quarry has long held a conspicuous place. The vast extended depth of the workings, the beauty of its freestone, the great number of workmen in active operation, and the geological phenomena as exhibited in the strata of the beds, all have a tendency to attract visitors; but the most interesting object is the Fossil Tree lately discovered there. The tree is quite black, the bark being converted into coal, and contrasts finely with the white sandstone in which it is embedded. The stem is marked at irregular intervals by transverse rings or irregular prominences. At some of the prominences the rugæ are contorted, like the coming-off of branches of various pine plants. That the tree belongs to the *ovurucarian* tribe of the family *Coniferae*, is distinctly shewn by the plates in a late number of Professor Jameson's Philosophical Journal, from longitudinal sections by Mr. Nicol.—*Edinburgh Journal*.

Friday, 12th. The sections met as usual; and the Geological and Physical also in subsections: to the former of which Geography had been assigned, and to the latter Mechanics. This day ladies were introduced into the section-rooms,—a practice to be deprecated in every respect, as utterly inconsistent with the scientific pursuits of the Association, and subversive of the purposes for which it has been instituted. The sections are for actual business, and nothing else; and that business cannot be carried on with either effect or propriety in the presence of the other sex. Such investigations as those of Dr. Graham in botany, when demonstrating the peculiarities of two new families of plants, and such as continually occur where comparative anatomy is required to resolve difficult questions, must of necessity be stopped the moment ladies are brought to the discussions. The gallantry which induced this departure from right order had far better be reserved for the evening and more general meetings; when care should be taken, in the first place, to accommodate these brightest ornaments of all societies; and, in the second, to produce such matters as will afford them rational amusement and instruction. Edinburgh was very defective in these essentials. The rooms displayed a very mixed company, certainly not altogether connected with the members of the Association, but admitted through local favouritism;\* and the annoyance of heat and effluvia would have been thought insufferable in a savage wigwam. We must further observe, that much of the lectures delivered, and the discussions which arose out of them, were not of a character to be addressed to accomplished and enlightened women. Dry science, and the official details, ought surely to be dispensed with; but, at the same time, mere levity and jest, to display the talents of the actors on the platform, ought to be avoided. The females of our day possess too much sense and information to require things to be lowered into buffoonery in order to suit their capacities; and it is possible to render even the most abstruse subjects agreeable to them, without descending to jokes like those which emanated from the keen encounter of wits on several of the evenings in question.

When the fair dames were flocking into the geological section, one of the doors was ordered to be closed, and thus, as Milton says, was—

“Knowledge at one entrance quite shut out.”

to the considerable inconvenience of the members. We may take this opportunity of noticing how admirably the College was adapted for the meeting: first, in the noble Library, and then in the adjacent Lecture-rooms of the various professors, than which nothing could be more eligible for the sitting of the sections. When the business of the day was finished, we adjourned, with a party of botanists and lovers of natural history, to inspect the Botanical Gardens, and had the rare gratification of being accompanied by Dr. Graham, Mr. Hooker (the author of the *Flora Scotica*), and other distinguished naturalists. The day was beautiful, and the grounds appeared to great advantage. They are worthy of the other charms of this romantic city—about fourteen acres and a half, admirably laid out, and curious plants of every clime skilfully cultivated and acclimatised.† The vistas, which terminate in picturesque peeps of Arthur's Seat, Salisbury Craigs, the

Calton Hill, and the Castle, are exquisitely varied and lovely; and the more sweeping view from the Terrace must be seen to be appreciated. The Garden itself reposes on the bank of a fine wood, basking in the south and southwest, and even at this late season exhibiting floral beauties of every dye. Though only thirteen years in being, the abilities of Mr. Mac-Nab, the gardener, and the first to transplant trees of a large size, have embellished it in a manner above all praise. Its inspection was truly a delightful relaxation from the fatigues of sterner science.

The evening assembly presented the same aspect as before: the thermometer about 95 deg., and the olfactory nerves kept in a painful condition. In the gallery the emanations were by no means insensible. Mr. Whewell delivered a lecture on Tides; but as the observations made since last year, though important, have not yet been calculated, we have nothing to state on the subject. Mr. Sedgwick succeeded his brother Cantab, and addressed the audience in a wind-up speech, in which, as in duty bound, he lauded Edinburgh, praised its hospitality, eulogised its fair, and, in conclusion, panegyricised science and such meetings like the present, as teaching the best lessons of religion, and elevating their votaries to the adoration of the great First Cause and Author of Nature.

Saturday, 13th. As the close of the meeting could hardly be said to take place till Monday, we shall this week describe the transactions of Saturday very briefly. Indeed they do not belong to science abstractedly, and though they honour it, we are desirous of devoting some part of this No. to a portion of such details as our philosophical and continental readers, in particular, must wish to have laid before them.

In the forenoon the freedom of the city of Edinburgh was conferred on Sir T. M. Brisbane the President, M. Arago, Mr. Moll, Mr. Dalton, and the great botanist Brown.\*

In the Council or General Committee, it was decided, after considerable discussion, that the meeting should be at Dublin next year, at the time we have stated; Dr. Lloyd President, and Lord Oxmantown and Mr. Whewell Vice-Presidents. Liverpool and Bristol sent in invitations, but were properly postponed to the capital of the sister kingdom, and the seat of a rising university.

By two o'clock there was a rush to get into the Library, where the concluding meeting was to be held at three; but it was amply sufficient for the purpose, and, besides accommodating ladies in the galleries (in this again, the secret† was so well kept, that none except the favoured class knew of ladies being admissible, and the members generally were not even apprised of the assemblage), there was ample space for a very numerous congregation.

This may be termed the laudatory or buttering day. Many motions were moved, and many speeches made, to which we may refer hereafter; but at present we must content ourselves with noticing, that the Lord Chancellor, in seconding a resolution, delivered a concise speech, of which the Edinburgh journals furnished the subjoined note:—“After apologising for not sooner appearing at the meetings of the Association, which he said was attributable to accident, he remarked that he understood he owed the honour of seconding

the motion of his reverend and learned friend (Mr. Sedgwick) to the circumstance—one of the proudest in his life—that he was a member of the National Institute of France. It had been often remarked that war was a game at which, if the people were wise, governments would not often play; and he might add, that in encouraging and fostering the exertions of men of science, who were of no party, and over whom the angry tempests of war passed innocuous, a government was taking the best means to facilitate that which ought ever to be their chief aim—peace on earth, and good-will among men. He might remark also, that as, among individuals, the older they grew, the more sensible they became that life was too short to be spent in personal quarrels, so he was happy to say that the world was now too old, and too experienced, for neighbouring states to engage in war with little or no ground of quarrel. A great part of this softening influence was to be attributed to science, which formed a bond of brotherhood between learned men of all countries. It was, therefore, on scientific principles, and on the principles of an enlightened philanthropy, that he cordially seconded the motion of his reverend friend.”

At the conclusion, Sir T. Brisbane (the president) dismissed the meeting in the following words:—

“As the humble organ of this great intellectual body, I rise to return thanks for the reception the Association has received in Edinburgh. I have had the good fortune to attend the whole of the meetings of the Association at York, Oxford, and Cambridge, and I am proud to think that Edinburgh has not fallen short, but has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations of any member of the Association; and it is most gratifying to myself as a Scotsman; which is enhanced by the honour I have this day received, namely, the freedom of the city, which I now hold in my hand. I therefore congratulate the Association on its increasing prosperity;—but how can it be otherwise when so many distinguished individuals are found in our Society, and when even the Lord Chancellor attends our meeting? The distinguished foreigners who have assisted in our labours have all expressed their desire to co-operate with the Association in its different objects; and my friend M. Arago, who is a most distinguished deputy of France, a philosopher and astronomer unrivalled on the continent of Europe, whose name is a host in itself, and whom I have had the happiness of knowing these nineteen years, has desired me to convey his own willingness, and that of the Institute of France, to co-operate in our labours; and what may not be accomplished by such combination of talent? I trust, therefore, that henceforth these two great nations, France and England, will never become rivals but in emulating which of the two shall contribute most to the comfort and happiness of the human race. To the whole of the public authorities our grateful acknowledgements are offered; and I speak with confidence when I say, none of us will ever forget the reception that Edinburgh has given us. I have now to perform the only painful duty which has been imposed on me during the week, namely, to adjourn the Society, which is hereby adjourned to the 10th of August 1835, at Dublin.”

\* Having given this address of the president correctly, we may as well add his speech on opening the meeting, which was shortly reported in our last No.

† After the distinguished nobleman who first filled the situation I have now the honour to hold, and after the two celebrated professors who successively followed him—

\* All the tickets for ladies were disposed of before the members met at ten o'clock on Monday morning; after which hour we repeatedly applied in vain for a single card.

† There is also a Horticultural Experimental Garden close by; but we had not time to examine it.

\* College honours, we understood, were also to be conferred on these and other distinguished individuals.

† Query—Is not secret-ary derived from keeping secrets? At any rate, Professor Forbes was so exceedingly harassed, as to be perfect in taciturnity. His confère was a little more communicative.

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Reserving remarks,—an account of the dinner at the ordinary, where our friend Wilkie was deservedly acknowledged by his countrymen (the only compliment, to our knowledge, paid out of the pale of Science) and some other particulars,—we shall now endeavour to find room for as much of the real business of the sections as we can. The proceedings of the geological section of Tuesday were shortly told in our last; but, to make the series more complete, we insert a regular *résumé* of the whole.

**Section of Geology and Geography:** President, Professor Jameson; Secretaries, Mr. J. Phillips and Mr. Torry.—The recommendations of the committee of Geology at Cambridge were read, and the researches undertaken in compliance therewith, reported to the meeting. The communications presented to the section were enumerated; and, in consequence of a resolution of the section, the discussion on some views advocated by Dr. Boase, relating to primary rocks, was commenced by that gentleman stating some of these views, and finally committing the subject of the discussion to the question whether primary slates are or are not stratified. In proposing this specific question, Dr. Boase stated the difficulties which occurred in *limine* as to the meaning of the term stratification, and noticed the various definitions of different geological authors—depending on considerations of the parallelism of certain surfaces of division, on the curvatures and contortions existing in them, on the alternation of beds of different mineral characters, and on the circumstances observed with regard to the inclination of layers. He stated, from his own observations, and referred to his recent publication for detailed descriptions, the fact that all the features usually considered as characteristic of stratification in primary slates, do also occur in granite; and that the essential structural characters of those stated are continued into

men of pre-eminent talent and gigantic intellect, and who are recognised as such all over Europe—I must confess I appear before you with the utmost diffidence, and therefore claim your indulgence for being placed in a situation in which I feel quite inadequate to discharge, in a becoming manner, the various and important duties belonging to it, which would require almost universal knowledge, and for which I am indebted to the kind indulgence of the Association, and not to any merit of my own; but for this mark of high distinction I beg to express my unbounded gratitude. I must also acknowledge the great obligations I feel towards my learned and eloquent predecessor, for the kind though unmerited compliments he has been pleased to bestow upon me. Although Edinburgh cannot boast of the accommodation, or even attempt to rival the boundless hospitality the Association experienced at the English universities, still I feel confident my countrymen will yield in no degree to them in giving the Association the best possible reception, with a desire to uphold the national character for hospitality, as all ranks must hail with enthusiasm and much gratification men who have done so much towards the extension of the boundaries of human knowledge and comfort as those who are now assembled in this ancient capital, which has given birth to individuals who have done honour to human nature, and amongst whom many could have been found who would have adorned this chair in place of the humble individual who has now the honour to address you; indeed, I need not go farther than my nearest learned friend on my right (Sir David Brewster), one of our vice-presidents. It is but justice to the principal and professors of the University to say, they have done all in their power to afford every accommodation, and have offered the free use of the class and other public rooms in the College, which are admirably adapted for the sectional and other meetings. Other public bodies have not been backward in the same offers. The noblemen and gentlemen in the neighbourhood have expressed their desire to promote the objects of the Association. After the luminous epopee we have just heard from my learned predecessor, no subjects are left for me to touch upon. Professor Forbes has kindly undertaken the task of detailing the labours of the Association since our last meeting; and I need not say it could not be in better hands. I shall therefore not waste the time of the meeting, but conclude by congratulating the Association on its prospering condition; and I have no doubt it will go on progressively, until its beneficial effects shall be felt, not only over the whole of the united empire of Great Britain, but even throughout Europe or the globe we inhabit."

the neighbouring granites, thence inferring that no real structural distinction existed between the granite and the primary slates.

Professor Sedgwick entered on the question at considerable length, and stated that sixteen years ago, after a visit to Cornwall, he had been led to adopt the opinions now held by Dr. Boase; but that his subsequent experience, and more especially his investigations in North Wales and Cumberland, had produced a considerable change in his views. He discussed the principles upon which questions of this nature ought to be considered, and particularly stated the impossibility of giving definitions which would be applicable to all cases. The Professor mentioned his belief, that it was impossible to separate the lower and higher parts of the slate series, and his opinion that it was generally quite practicable to distinguish between true stratification and laminar structure. He alluded to the assistance to be derived from the striped appearance so common in the slates of Wales, and noticed the distinctions between certain structures of rocks and the characteristic marks of true stratification. He also expressed his conviction that the laminar structure had been produced at a period subsequent to that of the formation of the slaty rocks in which it occurs.

Mr. Greenough directed the attention of the section to cases where the lines of structure are not parallel to seams of stratification, and instanced the sand-stone rocks of Crichton Castle, and the neighbourhood of Roslin. He expressed his opinion, that Lehmann's and Arduin's definition of primitive rocks should still be adhered to, and regretted that the innovations in the terminology of geology had increased the difficulties of the present discussion.

Mr. Lyell explained the designation of stratification he had given in his *Principles of Geology*, and offered some farther remarks on the essential characters of stratification.

Professor Phillips observed, that the views of geologists on the subjects of stratification, and other characters of primary strata, were commonly tinged with peculiarities depending on the limits of their inquiries; so that while the symmetrical system of division common in primary rocks of all kinds was the most attended to by one class of observers, and the traces of stratification more regarded by others, results apparently conflicting were drawn from the examination of the same country. It was important to attend to the real distinction between the two systems of structure, because each was due to a proper cause; but it was absolutely essential to the production of a right general conclusion, that the partial truths thus disclosed should be contemplated together.

Mr. Gates noticed some localities in Cornwall, where the separation of the schistose rocks and granite was very marked.

Dr. Buckland expressed his acquiescence in the views of Professors Sedgwick and Phillips; and referred the section for a fuller account of his opinions to his work now in the press.

Dr. Boase shortly replied, and seemed not at all inclined to yield to the phalanx arrayed against him, nor to subscribe to the force of their arguments.

A portion of Dr. Roger's report of the geology of North America was then read; and a general account of the contents of the remainder given by Professor Phillips. Illustrative maps were exhibited. Lord Greenock presented for distribution copies of a view of the Castle Hill section. Adjourned at half-past three.

We fear, that from writing in some confusion, and at such a distance that we cannot refer to

our last No. while preparing its successor, we must be guilty of crudeness, repetition, and faults in style; but we look to the consideration of our readers to excuse them, and only to remember our anxiety to furnish as good a history as we can of a meeting so important to the general interests of science.

An abridgement of the proceedings of the section of Natural History follows.

**Transactions in the Natural History Section during the Week,** of which Professor Graham was chairman and Mr. Yarrell and Mr. Burnett secretaries.—The Rev. Leonard Jenyns, of Cambridge, read his report "on the recent progress and present state of zoology." This report, undertaken by Mr. Jenyns at the meeting of the British Association at Cambridge, could not have been produced without great reading and labour. A mass of information of real value and interest was detailed at length, and the report gave general satisfaction.

Mons. Agassiz, one of the best ichthyologists of France, so well known from his work on fossil fishes, read a paper entitled "Observations sur les espèces du genre *salmo* qui peuplent les rivières et les lacs de l'Europe." The object of the writer was to shew that too much dependence had hitherto been placed on colour, and the species in consequence had been, in his opinion, considered to be more numerous than a rigid examination would sanction. The various qualities of water and soil were known to exercise a particular influence on the colour of the productions of the cuticle; and Mons. Agassiz invited the attention of the members present to the consideration of more permanent external characters, which he pointed out in several species of the genus *salmo*, then before the meeting in illustration of another communication.

Dr. Gillies read an account of excursions in the neighbourhood of Quito and towards the summit of Chimborazo and Pinchincha.

A paper by Robert Brown was read, on the plurality and development of the embryos in the seeds of *conifera*.

W. C. Trevelyan read a notice on the distribution of the phenogamous plants of the Faroe Islands.

An excursion through the western portion of Sutherlandshire, performed by Dr. Greville, Mr. Selby, Mr. James Wilson, and Sir Wm. Jardine, Bart., produced a notice from Mr. Selby of the birds observed and obtained during this trip. A specimen of the gyrfalcon had been shot just before the visit of the party. The black-throated diver, not hitherto known to breed in this country, was found; and the parent birds, exhibiting no sexual difference in plumage, as had been suspected, were obtained, as well as the young birds. Sir Wm. Jardine read his remarks on the various species of *salmo* taken in the different rivers and lochs; upon which Mons. Agassiz and Dr. Richardson made additional observations. Mr. James Wilson exhibited the insects of Sutherland, and also a collection lately received from Java.

Mr. Selby also read a description of the function and use of the orbital glands in birds of the orders *grallatores* and *nataiores*.

J. G. Dalzell, Esq. read an interesting paper on the propagation of Scottish zoophytes.

Mr. John Murray made a communication on the successful cultivation in Scotland of *phormium tenax*.

E. Walker Arnott read a paper on the *calculus indicus* of commerce.

Dr. Daubeny related the progress made in researches on the secretions from the roots of vegetables.



Captain Brown exhibited a new species of *pecten*.

J. F. Royle read a paper on the process of successive vegetation at various heights on the Himalayan Mountains.

Dr. Allan Thomson exhibited several specimens of North American reptiles, remarkable for their persistent external bronchiae.

Dr. Traill made some observations on the cranium of *Delphinus deductor* (*D. melas* of Neill), on the laryngeal sac of the rein-deer of Lapland; and exhibited a drawing of a new species of thrush from Nepal, allied to the *Turdus varius* of Dr. Horsfield.

The secretary read a paper, by J. O. Westwood, Esq. on the transformations of the crustacea.

Mr. Drake made a communication on the change of colour in a certain species of elder.

A paper by W. M'Gillivray, A.M. was read, on the Natural History of a range of hills in south Scotland; and a second paper by Mr. John Murray on the analysis of certain vegetable products.

#### WEDNESDAY.

Professor Jameson in the chair.—Mr. George Rennie communicated observations on the principle of construction and the practical employment of an instrument for taking up water at great depths. It had been tried at the estuary of the Tamar, near Plymouth, and completely succeeded; but no deposit was found in the water during the whole spring season.

The report of Mr. Stevenson, on the state of our knowledge respecting the relative level of land and sea, and the waste and extension of land on the east coast of England, was read. Remarks were made by Professor Phillips, and a discussion ensued in which Mr. W. Smith related the results of his personal investigations of this subject. Mr. Lyell, at the request of the meeting, gave a condensed view of the conclusions at which he had arrived during his recent visit to Sweden, as to the gradual but partial change of the relative level of land and sea, and of the evidence by which he had been convinced of this supposed gradual rise.

Lord Greenock, in the name of the Highland Society, announced the desire of that body to afford its assistance to geological investigations, and stated that, from observations lately received from the treasury, it was now certain that the Geological Map of Scotland would speedily be published. His lordship then read a paper on the coal formation of the central district of Scotland, which was illustrated by interesting specimens, sections, and maps.

Professor Jameson spoke of the services rendered to the geology of Scotland by the late Mr. Macculloch, jun., and expressed his hope that the results of his labours would be employed and acknowledged in the government map.

A notice by Mr. Trevelyan, on fossil wood from France, was read, and drawings were exhibited.

Dr. Hibbert read the account of the ossiferous beds in the basins of the Forth, the Clyde, and the Tay, and their relation to other strata; and shewed an extensive series of illustrative maps, sections, and specimens.

Remarks were made by Dr. Buckland and Professor Sedgwick; and, at the request of the president, M. Agassiz made some observations on the distinctions between the fossil fishes of the formations anterior to the lias, and those of more recent origin. He also gave a general exposition of his views in regard to the fossil fishes exhibited by Dr. Hibbert, and expressed his belief that many of them belonged to genera

not hitherto described. Some Nos. of his extensive work now in progress were handed about, and particularly recommended to the attention of the section by the president and Dr. Buckland.

An invitation from Mr. R. Allan to inspect his mineralogical collection was received; and an expedition to Burdie-house on Friday proposed; but we believe that the time of the members was too much occupied to admit of it.

Adjourned again at half-past three.

#### THURSDAY.

Lieutenant Murphy exhibited some sheets of the Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland; which led to remarks on the expediency of completing this useful and beautifully executed design.

Mr. Nicol read a paper on the structure of recent and fossil woods, in which he described the results of his investigations. He exhibited an extensive series of specimens, and explained his method of obtaining thin sections of these woods.

Professor Traill communicated remarks on the Geology of the Orkneys. These islands consist chiefly of sandstone, and of a sandstone flag much charged with clay, belonging to the old red sandstone. Granite also occurs very like that of Sutherland, often approaching to gneiss, and covered by a conglomerate. The fossil fishes are found near Skail in Pornona, about two miles from the junction of the granite with the slate.

Mr. Murchison spoke of the fossil fishes of Caithness, and said he had formerly sent specimens to Cuvier, who had been disposed to refer the families to which they belonged to those of Mansfield and Thuringenvald. He afterwards visited the spot with Professor Sedgwick, and came to the conclusion that the strata containing the fishes were referable to a formation as old as the old red sandstone, and perhaps ascending as high as the carboniferous series.

Professor Sedgwick entered at considerable detail into the nature of the sandstone deposits of the north of Scotland, and stated his opinion that the slaty sandstone of Caithness had been bituminized by the remains of fish.

Dr. Hibbert considered the fossil fishes in question as belonging to the formation analogous to that of Mansfield.

M. Agassiz expressed his opinion that the fossil fishes of Orkney and Caithness belonged to a period more ancient than the coal measures; and remarked that several of the specimens exhibited belonged to new genera and species.

Mr. Lyell agreed with Professor Sedgwick and Mr. Murchison in their opinion; and made some remarks on the Geology of Forfarshire.

Mr. Milne read a very able paper on the Geology of Berwickshire, and described the different formations of which that district consisted, viz. the greywacke, old red sandstone, coal measures, and trap. He detailed the mineralogical and fossil characters, marking their different formations; and in particular alluded to the question as to the true geological character of the country, which he considered to be developments of the lower beds of the Berwick coal-field, which lies at the bottom of the mountain-limestone series. He also pointed out in detail the various elevations which had successively taken place on the land, by eruptions of trap at successive epochs; accompanying his observations by a reference to specimens, a map, and sections.

Remarks expressive of the high opinion entertained of the value of Mr. Milne's paper were made by Professor Sedgwick, Professor Jameson, Mr. Greenough, and Mr. Murchison; and it was indeed highly honourable to the zeal and talents of so young a geologist.

The secretary laid before the section Dr. Haslan's paper on the fossil organic remains of the United States.

#### FRIDAY.

Professor Jameson, as usual, in the chair. Mr. Dunn exhibited and described his new clinometer.

Mr. James Bruce read a notice of some caverns containing bones, near the Giant's Causeway.

Mr. Horner, in reference to the same subject, read a communication from Mr. T. Andrews, of Trinity College, Dublin, who had recently discovered some extensive caves in the island of Rathlin, situated four miles from the Antrim coast, with a sea of 30 fathoms between. From the situation of the caves in Rathlin, it is evident that the sea must once have entered them at a much higher elevation than its present level.

Professor Phillips communicated the results of his investigations on the relation of joints and veins. An eloquent exposition, on which some remarks were offered by Mr. Smith, Mr. J. Taylor, and Dr. Boase.

Mr. Maclaren read a paper on the Geology of the Pentland Hills, which was suitably illustrated.

Mr. Murchison gave an abstract of Dr. Roger's report on the Geology of North America; and read extracts from this valuable and elaborate memoir.

Mr. Lyell expressed the high opinion he entertained of the labours and theoretical views of Professor Roger. As it appears that a very small number of the fossils of North America agree specifically with those of Europe, he coincided with the author, that the only approximation which could, at present, be attempted towards ascertaining the relative age of the tertiary groups of the two Continents, was that to be derived from a comparison of the relative proportion of recent to extinct shells. At the same time, he fully concurred with Dr. Roger in the opinion, that such a comparison ought not to be insisted upon as affording any positive test of exact contemporaneous deposition, since the rate of change in species could not be assumed to have been always equal, especially in remote regions, during equal periods of time.

Dr. Traill announced that fossil fishes, brought by him from Orkney, had been this morning carefully examined by M. Agassiz, who recognised eight species, of which no fewer than five were quite new to him, and he conceived that these belonged to five genera of which three were hitherto unknown!\*

Capt. Maconochie, the secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, gave an account of the origin and progress of that institution. He then communicated some details relative to the late expedition to the Niger, and to the expeditions recently sent out to the interior of Africa and to British Guiana.

Lieut. Allan, the fellow-traveller of Lander, exhibited some of his admirable panoramic views of the scenery of the Niger. [We should observe, that this enterprising officer and able draughtsman was restrained from doing more than merely gratifying the curiosity of the

\* We have seen some of these remarkable specimens; they are very distinct and perfect.



section with a view of these drawings,—his engagement with the owners of the expedition preventing him from supplying any intelligence concerning it.]

Mr. Murchison presented a tabular view of the order and succession of various formations of great thickness (distinct from each other in their organic remains and mineralogical characters), which rose from beneath the old red sandstone of England and Wales. He dwelt on the great series of fishes occurring throughout this old red sandstone of England, and pointed out Dr. Lloyd, of Ludlow, as the person who had first called his attention to them. These fishes, it now appeared, were common to the central portion of the old red sandstone of England, and the strata occupying the same geological position in Forfarshire and other counties in Scotland. Mr. M. further expressed his opinion that the Arbroath pavement is the equivalent of the tile-stones or lower member of the old red sandstone of England.

Mr. Blackadder exhibited a fossil fish from Glamis millstone quarry, which is situated in the old red sandstone.

Mr. Agassiz referred this fish to the family of the *Ganoides*, and to his genus *Cephalaspis*, which is characterised by the immense cuirass that envelopes, or rather forms its head. This fish is quite new to the scientific world, and has now been found entire for the first time.

Dr. Hibbert pointed out the resemblance which the Kirkton fossil had to a fossil crustacean animal lately figured by Dr. Harlan.

Dr. Knight, of Aberdeen, read a notice on the flints found in various parts of Aberdeenshire, and especially in the vicinity of Peterhead. He particularised the fossils discovered in them, and exhibited an interesting series of specimens.

Mr. Agassiz offered some farther remarks on the fossil organic remains of Burdie-house; and stated his belief that some of the fossils considered to be saurian animals were in reality saurid fishes.

Mr. Saull exhibited drawings of the incisors and canine teeth of the fossil hippopotamus from a gravel-pit near Huntingdon.

Mr. Hall's model of a portion of Derbyshire was shewn.

The secretary exhibited an impression of a fossil plant, supposed to be new, from Ayrshire, and sent by Dr. Thompson of Glasgow.

Dr. Buckland laid before the section a drawing, by Mrs. Turner of Liverpool, of a large fossil focus found in the new red sandstone of that neighbourhood in 1829.

Adjourned at three o'clock.

In the Statistical section, in addition to what we noticed in our last, we may state that considerable discussion took place on the subject of Sunday schools. Perhaps some member of the Association had not been born at a time to benefit by such education as they afford; for there was a placard upon the library door, advertising "The gentleman" who had abstracted a brown silk umbrella, that he might have the case on applying to the doorkeeper, as it might be useful to him, and was no longer of any use to the late owner of the umbrella.

Lord Fitzwilliam, at one meeting of the section, proposed to ascertain the quantity of stock and farming utensils possessed by each farmer, and the average of capital applied to the cultivation of land. M. Quetelet also advised the application of mathematics to the theory of population: these are the only points omitted in the Edinburgh journals, from which we have copied nothing, as we trust to be able

to complete our report from original and authentic sources.

The following will give some idea of the proceedings.

*Papers for the Chemical Section, Thursday 11th.*—1st. Notice on the presence of sulphur in bar iron, by Mr. West. 3d. On the deposits under the Yorkshire iron furnaces, by Mr. Harcourt. 3d. On a notation for the haloid compounds, by Mr. Johnston. 4th. Notice of a vapour spirit-lamp, by Mr. Trevelyan. 5th. On the amount of carbonic acid in the atmosphere, by Henry H. Watson. 6th. Chemical notices, by M. Van der Voorn.

*Order of Business.*—1st. Rev. W. V. Harcourt, on the deposits under the Yorkshire iron furnaces. 2d. Professor Clarke, on the use of hot air in the manufacture of cast iron. 3d. Dr. Christison, on the action of water on lead, with practical applications. 4th. Mr. Graham, on the constitution of certain hydrated salts, with observations on the doctrine of isomerism. 5th. Mr. Kemp, on the lignification of gases. 6th. Mr. Stevely, on applying a vernier to Wollaston's scale of chemical equivalents. 7th. Mr. H. H. Watson, on Sir John Leslie's hygrometer. 8th. Mr. Lowe, demonstration of some interesting products obtained by long-continued heat in gas-works.

Of the transactions in the physical and mathematical section the list of the business for one day, as affixed upon the door, will also afford a fair example.

*Order of Business. Friday, 12th.*—Sir David Brewster, on the action of disintegrated surfaces on light. Dr. Knight, on the vibrations of heated metals. Mr. Russell, notice of an anomalous fact in hydrodynamics. Professor Forbes, on a compression barometer. Mr. Graves, remarks on the theory of exponential functions. Mr. Sang, on lines of the third order. Mr. Sang, property of successive integer numbers. Rev. Dr. Robinson, on the visibility of the moon in total eclipses. Mr. Hodgkinson, on collision. Mr. Williams, on the production of sound. Mr. Adie, on the state of the weather, drawn from a register of ten years in Edinburgh. Mr. Campbell, on the antinatural tide. Mr. Dick, on correction of colour in telescopes.

On Monday the astronomers met, and the site of the Edinburgh Observatory was discussed. That on the Calton Hill is repudiated for scientific purposes; but the ultimate arrangements cannot be settled till government is consulted. No doubt, another observatory will be erected in a fit situation; and the old one turned to other purposes.

In conclusion, for the present week, we have only to express our extreme surprise, and we may add regret, that no professor of the University of Edinburgh contributed (as far as we ascertained) a single paper to the science of this meeting in their own seat of learning and instruction. Had they nothing to communicate, or did idleness induce them to leave the field to a few English and Irish professors? Edinburgh was once, and not long ago, one of the chief and most admired of public seminaries. Surely her Elect ought to have shone on such an occasion as this, nor left us to wonder and exclaim,

"How are the mighty fallen!"

#### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*Wanderings in New South Wales, Batavia, &c.; being the Journal of a Naturalist in those Countries in 1832, 3, and 4.* 2 vols. 8vo. By George Bennet, F.L.S., &c. London, 1834. Bentley.

New South Wales, that Utopia of the Old Bailey, is becoming every day a greater object of interest. The present writer says, that he "has limited himself principally, if not entirely, to the notes taken at the instant of observation, his object being to relate facts in the order they occurred; and, without regard to studied composition, to impart the information he has been enabled to collect in simple and unadorned language, avoiding, as much as possible, the technicalities of science."

We give his performance its well-merited praise, when we add that he has furnished a useful, intelligent, and amusing work: the style, however, might be considerably improved. Let our readers judge:—

*State of the Convicts.*—"The opinion which

appears generally to prevail, that prisoners of the crown are placed in the colony in a better situation than free men, there is too much reason for regarding as correct. They are well fed and clothed, take good care to be never over-worked, and have an hospital, with the best attendance, when sick. An assigned servant or convict may be correctly defined as an individual who is well fed and clothed—insolent and indolent—and takes care that the little work he has to perform is badly done. When sick, which often proceeds from lying idle too long in the sun, he walks to the hospital; and, from the exertion, together with the thoughts of 'bleeding, blistering,' and physis, he soon recovers, and returns to his master, to again undergo the fatigue of doing little or nothing. One of these characters applied for his ticket of leave, but soon returned, wishing again to be employed by his former master, if only for his food; at the same time observing, that he was better off before, in bondage, than he was now, partially free; so his fellow-servants persuaded him to send the ticket back, and say, 'it was all a mistake.' The following anecdote may serve to illustrate the misery an iron gang occasions to spirit drinkers. A convict was once weighed by his comrades, and the weight at that time marked with chalk upon the barn-door. A short time after this took place, he was sentenced for an offence to an iron gang for six weeks. After the term of his punishment had expired, and he returned to his master, he was observed to be in a stouter and more robust condition than before; his comrades again weighed him, to see what he had gained in flesh, if not in any moral benefit, by his punishment; when it was ascertained he had gained twenty pounds. As this man had, when on the farm, been continually toying, and as, when with the iron gang, he had no opportunity of continuing his potations, that circumstance may have occasioned his increased good health and condition. This may be a hint, therefore, to send all the sick whose illness may arise principally from habitual drunkenness, instead of an hospital, to an iron gang for a short period. The London pickpockets are considered to make the best shepherds in the colony, as it suits their naturally idle habits; the industrious labourer cannot endure the very wearisome and lazy employment of looking after sheep; the petty larcener soon gets attached to his woolly charges, and the sheep, no doubt, by a natural instinct, to him; and thus the animals are tended with some degree of care; but the regular workman, detesting the occupation, (unless incapacitated from a more active employment by age or accident,) seldom takes any interest in the valuable property entrusted to his care; the former are, therefore, to be preferred. The shepherds, when tending their flocks in the pasture, while away their leisure time by manufacturing coarse but durable straw hats. There is, no doubt, much truth in the remark I have heard in the colony, that some of the lower orders contrive to get government servants assigned to them, ostensibly for the purpose of cultivating the soil, but in reality to assist in plundering. This may also be inferred from the very limited means they can otherwise have for procuring a livelihood. As a veil to such practices, and to lull any suspicion that might be created, they dig, and plant a few potatoes and other vegetables, in a small spot of ground, laid out near their bark residence, as a garden; and the crown prisoners are procured ostensibly to assist in cultivating this 'bit of earth,' and thus the vegetable garden affords a cloak to many crimes. Convicts ought

(if by transportation any punishment is intended) to be sent, according to the nature of their crimes, to the whole of our colonies, whether in the East and West Indies, coast of Africa, &c. &c. solely for the purpose of being employed upon the public works, and free emigration to be encouraged to Australia, Cape, &c. on a very extended scale. The influence of the emancipist class of the New South Wales population is great, and they are also possessed of great wealth. As wealth is one degree of power, they must be regarded both as an influential and powerful body. There is also that system adopted, which is much to be regretted: I allude to no distinction being made between those banished for trivial offences, and those who have committed deeper crimes. Many atrocious characters are assigned to persons of the highest respectability, well clothed and fed; and from them often have I witnessed most unbounded insolence; so that a stranger would imagine the master to be under obligations to the servant, and would be astonished when told that the servant was a convicted felon."

*Infanticide singularly contrasted with strong Affection.*—"It appears far from being an uncommon circumstance for the females of the aboriginal tribes about this and other districts in the colony, when they experience much lingering suffering in labour, to threaten the life of the poor infant previous to birth; and when it takes place, keep their word by destroying it. One instance was mentioned to me as occurring at a station at 'Cuttabalo', a hundred and twenty miles from Dabee, and near the Castle-rough or Big River (and I have since known several similar occurrences); the woman had, in this case, been two days suffering from a severe and lingering labour, during which she often threatened the poor unborn infant with death on its coming into the world, using the expression of 'pi, a, cobera!' (break its head!) and, on its birth, the unfortunate baby was absolutely killed by its unnatural parent. This has occurred in a number of instances when the children were half-castes, and seems to be almost an invariable custom among the Australian aborigines—as it is among the New Zealanders and natives of the Polynesian Archipelago—to destroy the infants produced by intercourse with Europeans, unless the father resides constantly with the female, or else may be near them at the time, to prevent the commission of so horrid and unnatural an act. During a visit to the Murrumbidgee and Tumut countries, as well as other parts of the colony, I availed myself of every opportunity to procure information regarding acts of infanticide, as existing among the aborigines of this country. I succeeded in ascertaining that infants were frequently destroyed; sometimes the reason assigned was some personal defect in the infant, (whence we may attribute the fact of a deformed person being seldom seen among native tribes,) or the mother not wishing to have the trouble of carrying it about: the female children were more frequently destroyed than the males. I heard of a weak and sickly child having been destroyed, and even eaten: the reason given by the unnatural parents was, that they were very hungry, and the child no use and much trouble; one redeeming quality, however, was, that they displayed a sense of shame when acknowledging the fact, and gave the reason for which they had committed so barbarous an act. It is seldom they will confess having destroyed their offspring: one, however, who had a child by an European, acknowledged it readily; and the reason given for the commission was its being like a warragul, or

native dog. This was because the infant, like its papa, had a 'carrot poll,' and thus resembled, in colour, the hair of the native dog, which is certainly not so handsome as the dark black locks of the aboriginal tribes. Although addicted to infanticide, they display, in other instances, an extraordinary degree of affection for their dead offspring, evidenced by an act that almost exceeds credibility, had it not so often been witnessed among the tribes in the interior of the colony. I allude to the fact of deceased children, from the earliest age to even six or seven years, being placed in a bag made of kangaroo skin, and slung upon the back of the mother, who, besides this additional burden, carries her usual *netbul*, or *culy*, for provisions, &c. They carry them thus for ten or twelve months, sleeping upon the mass of mortal remains, which serves them for a pillow, apparently unmindful of the horrid fetor which emanates from such a putrefying substance. Habit must reconcile them to it, for a woman carrying such a burden may be 'nosed' at a long distance before seen; and a stranger unacquainted with this native custom, will see a woman with a large pack upon her back, from which such an odour proceeds, as to make him doubt from what it can be produced. When the body becomes dry, or only the bones left, the remains are burnt, buried, or placed into a hollow trunk or limb of a tree: in the latter instance covering the opening carefully with stones, &c. All the information that could be procured from them respecting this disgusting custom, was, 'that they were afraid, if they buried them, the Buckee, or devil-devil would take them away.' When the adults among the aborigines die, the body is consigned to the hollow trunk of a tree, cave, or in the ground, according to circumstances, and wood, stones, &c. are piled on the entrance, or over the grave, so that, according to the ideas of these poor, superstitious savages, the Buckee may not be able to find them."

*Belief in the Metempsychosis.*—"From many circumstances that have occurred, there is some reason to think that the aborigines of this country believe in the metempsychosis of [or] the departure of the soul of their brethren into the bodies of certain animals; but as the notes I collected did not satisfy my mind, so as to assert this as a positive fact, I mention it for others to procure information on the subject. That something like it exists, appears in some degree certain. In one instance, a native, at Bérán plains, desired a European not to kill a *gáner* which he was then chasing, but to catch it alive as it was 'him brother.' The animal, however, was killed, at which the native was much displeased, and would not eat any of it, but unceasingly complained of the 'tumbling down him brother.'"

*Crystal as a Medicine.*—"The following account of the manner in which the crystal is used by the physician may be considered interesting. In the Tumut country, a native black, named Golong, was suffering from a spear wound, received a short time previous in a skirmish with a hostile tribe: it was in the evening, (for the stones are only used after dark, as at that time their efficacy is considered greater,) when a native of his tribe, named Baramumbup, employed the crystal for the purpose of healing the wound in the following manner:—The patient was laid at a distance of twenty or thirty yards from the encampment, after which the physician commenced the examination of the wound, which he sucked; then, without spitting, he retired to a distance of ten or fifteen yards from the invalid, mut-

tered, or appeared to mutter, some prayer or invocation for about a minute; on concluding, he placed the crystal in his mouth, sucked it, and then, removing the stone, spat upon the ground, and trampled upon the discharged saliva, pressing it with his feet firmly into the earth. This ceremony was repeated several times on this and subsequent evenings, until the patient's recovery, which, of course, was considered to have been effected by the wonderful curative properties resident in the crystal. On making inquiry why the physician is so careful in trampling the saliva discharged from his mouth into the ground, no satisfactory reason could be obtained, a vague answer only being returned to the query; but it is not improbable that they consider, by this operation, they finally destroy the power of the evil spirit, extracted by the operation, through the virtues of the stone: some such reason for this proceeding may be inferred from an observation made to any European who may be present at this part of the ceremony, that 'He no come up again.'"

*The Laughing or Feathered Donkey.*—"Among the feathered animals which abound here, is the *Dacelo gigantea*, Temm., better known to the colonists and strangers by the appellation of 'Laughing or feathered jack-ass.' Its peculiar gurgling laugh, commencing from a low, and gradually rising to a high and loud tone, is often heard by the traveller in all parts of the colony, sending forth its deafening noises whilst remaining perched upon the lofty branch of a tree watching for prey; it is respected by gardeners for destroying grubs, &c. The natives at Yás call the bird 'gogera,' or 'gogobera,' probably from its peculiar note, which has some resemblance to the sound of the word. It is said that one seldom laughs without being accompanied by a second, forming a very harmonious duet. This bird, from its devouring mice and venomous reptiles, deserves protection; (hawks also destroy snakes in this colony.) A gentleman told me that he was perfectly aware of the bird destroying snakes, as he had often seen them carry the reptiles to a tree, and break their heads to pieces with their sharp strong beaks: he also said he had known them destroy chickens soon after they were hatched, and carry away eggs, breaking the shell with their sharp beaks, to get at their contents. One of these birds, seen upon the branch of a tree near a river, looking so stupid, and nodding as if asleep, was shot, and it was then found that this peculiar manner proceeded from having swallowed a small snake, which had got into the stomach, throat, and bill, but had not yet accommodated itself in the former cavity. It is not uncommon to see these birds fly up with a long snake pending from their beak, the bird holding the reptile by the neck, just behind the head; but as the snake hangs down without motion, and appears dead, it is probable that the bird destroys them upon the ground before it conveys them into the tree. From these circumstances, although they may now and then 'make away' with an egg, or recently hatched chicken, by mistake for other food, yet there ought to be a prohibition against their being injured, as the vermin destroyed by them amply repay such trifling losses. This is the first bird heard in the morning, and the last (among the day-birds) at night; it rises with the dawn, when the woods re-echo with its gurgling laugh; and at sunset they are again heard."

*The Dingos, or Native Dogs.*—"They are a disciple of Neptune assures us that these birds are excellent musicians, and that 'he has heard one of them whistle 'Dorby Kelly' as well as the band of a marching regiment."

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the wolves of the colony, and are perhaps unequalled for cunning. These animals breed in the holes of rocks: a litter was found near Yas Plains, which the discoverer failed to destroy, thinking to return and catch the mother also, and thus destroy the whole family; but the 'old lady' must have been watching him, for on his returning a short time after, he found all the little dingos had been carried away, and he was never able, although diligent search was made in the vicinity, to discover their place of removal. The cunning displayed by these animals, and the agony they can endure without evincing the usual effects of pain, would seem almost incredible, had it not been related by those on whose testimony every dependence can be placed. The following are a few among a number of extraordinary instances:—One had been beaten so severely that it was supposed all the bones were broken, and it was left for dead. After the person had walked some distance, upon accidentally looking back, his surprise was much excited by seeing 'master dingo' rise, shake himself, and march into the bush, evading all pursuit. One, supposed dead, was brought into a hut, for the purpose of undergoing 'decoration'; at the commencement of the skinning process upon the face, the only perceptible movement was a slight quivering of the lips, which was regarded at the time as merely muscular irritability: the man, after skinning a very small portion, left the hut to sharpen his knife, and returning, found the animal sitting up, with the flayed integument hanging over one side of the face. Another instance was that of a settler, who, returning from a sporting expedition, with six kangaroo dogs, they met a dingo, which was attacked by the dogs, and worried to such a degree, that finding matters becoming serious, and that the worst of the sport came to his share, the cunning dingo pretended to be dead;—thinking he had departed the way of all dogs, they gave him a parting shake, and left him. Unfortunately for the poor dingo, he was of an impatient disposition, and was consequently premature in his resurrection, for before the settler and his dogs had gone any distance, he was seen to rise and skulk away, but, on account of the rough treatment he had received, at a slow pace; the dogs soon re-attacked him, when he was handled in a manner that must have eventually prevented any resuscitation taking place a second time."

*Anecdotes for the Craniologists.*—"When, on one occasion, the head of a native was under examination, a gentleman present asked the wondering black, 'if he knew what was doing to his head?' Blackee answered in the negative. 'Why you will no more be able to catch kangaroos or opossums.' No sooner was this said, than the black started away in anger, seized and flourished his spear, exclaiming, 'What for do you that? What for you do all the same that!' And the unfortunate manipulator of savage craniums, as also his companion, began to be apprehensive that the practice of the science was in a high degree dangerous among uncivilized beings. On another occasion, the temporal muscle was found unusually large in the head of a native black under investigation: this was remarked by the phrenologist to a gentleman who stood near him, at the same time squeezing it, and saying to blackee, 'Cohong (large) this.' 'Ah!' exclaimed the black, as he made off at a rapid pace, 'me now see what you want; you want patta,' (eat) and escaped as quickly as possible from the ravenous cannibal appetite he supposed the phrenologist to possess."

*Romantic History.*—"A female of one of the aboriginal tribes in the Murrumbidgee country formed an attachment and cohabited with a convict named Talbot, who, becoming a bush-ranger, was for a long time sought after by the police for the many atrocities he had committed, but always eluded pursuit. This female concealed him with true native ingenuity, and baffled his pursuers—she would fish and hunt for him, whilst he remained secluded in the retreat she chose. She often visited the stock-keepers' huts at the different stations, and whatever provision she received from them was immediately conveyed to the unworthy object of her devoted attachment. Although many knew she was privy to his concealment, yet it was found impossible to elude her vigilance, by following her, and thus discover his retreat:—she evaded all attempts, and seemed ever watchful for his safety, probably knowing the fate that awaited him, if taken. Neither promises of rewards—enough to excite the cupidity of any individual but one in whom a higher feeling was paramount—nor threats could induce her even to acknowledge she was acquainted with his place of concealment, much more betray it. Nay, it has occurred more than once, when there was a fear of discovery, that she has given voluntary information to the police of having seen him thirty or fifty miles distant, when, in fact, his place of concealment was in the immediate neighbourhood. The brute, however, manifested no kindred affection with this female, but would frequently beat and ill-use her. Whilst she administered to him the refreshing cup of kindness, he bestowed on her misery in return. He had in one instance given way to his natural brutish disposition, by ill-treating the being who had done so much for him, when he was on the verge of discovery, indeed had himself given up all hopes of escape, when she again saved him, by engaging to point out to the police his place of retreat, and absolutely led them away, under that pretence, in a contrary direction, affording her paramour both time and opportunity to seek out a safer asylum. When she arrived with the police at the spot she had informed them he last was, he of course was not there, and a strict search in the vicinity was equally unsuccessful: she then left them to continue their pursuit after the criminal, pretending to know nothing further respecting him or his place of concealment. At last he was captured by venturing out too boldly during her absence, was tried, condemned, and expiated his offences on the scaffold at Sydney. She wished to follow him, on hearing he was a prisoner; but that was impossible: so, reclaimed by her tribe, she was obliged to become an unwilling wife of one of the blacks. It is but too well known in what degradation the female sex are held among savage nations, so different from the deference and respect so justly given to that amiable and gentle portion of the creation in civilised life. This unfortunate female was ordered by her husband, whose word is law, to follow him, at a time when she was rendered incapable by illness; on her hesitating, he struck her with savage barbarity with his tomahawk so severely over the head and legs, that she fainted from loss of blood. She was found lying on the ground, and taken to the house of a settler, residing on the banks of the Murrumbidgee river, and every kindness and attention shewn her; but after lingering, suffering severe mental and bodily anguish, she expired."

*An arrival from Botany Bay in China.*—"It has been said that formerly it was dangerous in England to inform a fellow-traveller of hav-

ing just arrived from Botany Bay, as he will soon shun your acquaintance; but visitors from that country must, after the following anecdote, stand a worse chance in the celestial empire. A ship arriving at China from Australia, the commander, when asked by the Chinese where the ship came from, jocosely answered, 'From New South Wales, where all the English thieves are sent.' The inhabitants of the empire, taking the joke seriously, reported this and every other ship which arrived from that country to the mandarin as 'ship from thief country: one thief captain, three thief officers, twenty-five thief crew.' And when the Hooghly arrived with the late Governor of New South Wales, it was—"One thief viceroy of thief country, with several thief attendants."

We lately noticed Mr. Gutzlaff's able and valuable history. We cannot do better than conclude with a tribute to his merit, paid by the present writer.

"Many vessels have been sent to the east coast of China, by enterprising merchants of Canton, to endeavour, if possible, to open a trade with some of the Chinese ports on that coast. A highly talented gentleman, the Rev. C. Gutzlaff, with whom I had the gratification of forming an acquaintance, has often accompanied the vessels; but the result has been a very limited degree of success; the imbecility of the Chinese government has been fully ascertained; and during the last voyage, edicts were stuck about the village off which the vessel had anchored, stating that the foreign vessel had been driven away, while she still remained at anchor within sight of these very papers, endeavouring to carry on some traffic with the inhabitants; but, from the fear of the mandarins, it was effected but to a very limited extent. It is stated that the embassy of Lord Amherst is still mentioned by the Chinese, who say that it was fully expected, from the force he had with him, he would not have suffered himself to be driven away, but would have obliged the Chinese government to accede to any terms he chose to propose. The gentleman I have before mentioned, the Rev. C. Gutzlaff, is well acquainted with several dialects of the Chinese language, which he speaks with such fluency, as to be, when disguised, taken for a Chinese: he studies mankind, and endeavours to spread the Christian religion in a truly missionary spirit, so as to conduce (which a pure religion necessarily must do) to the happiness of the people: he also endeavours to effect his benevolent purpose towards them, by distributing tracts relating to the sciences of astronomy, geography, &c. written in the Chinese language; endeavouring, by an admirable religious feeling of benevolence, to promote the welfare of the people by spreading a purer religion than they possess; at the same time cultivating their minds in other branches of knowledge, enabling them to receive more vividly the impressions of the Divine Spirit."

To the lovers of botany and of natural history, this work will be peculiarly attractive; for Mr. Bennett has put his scientific knowledge into the most popular form; while his information and habits of investigation prevent those errors into which a less well-informed observer often falls. The volume contains many pleasing woodcuts of trees and plants.

*Method of preserving Flowers with their natural colours.*—"A method has since been mentioned to me, by which the colours of the flowers of plants are well preserved. The process was this:—the paper being first heated before the fire, or in an oven, the plant recently gathered is placed between the hot sheets, and



pressed. It is requisite, however, that the paper, in the same heated state, be renewed at intervals, on account of the expressed juices from the stalks and leaves fermenting, which might otherwise injure the plants. There is also a method of preserving plants in flower, by which their natural form, as well as colours, can be preserved. It consists in placing the plant in a jar, and pouring fine sand upon it, until the whole plant is covered: it is then to be placed, still kept in the jar, into an oven; after which, being taken out, and the sand removed, the plant is found preserved both in its form and colour."

*Memoirs of John Napier of Merchiston, his Lineage, Life, and Times; with a History of the Invention of Logarithms.* By Mark Napier, Esq. 4to. pp. 534. Edinburgh, 1834, Blackwood; London, Cadell.

THIS beautiful volume is a literary luxury, and, unlike many luxuries, one of great utility. Much injustice has been done to the distinguished individual whose memoirs this work records; and the task to do him right could not have devolved into fitter hands. Peculiarly interesting to the antiquary, the herald, and the scientific philosopher, these pages have much to attract the general reader, as they abound in incidental notices of the history, &c. of the times. Leaving for more scientific discussion than our columns will admit the progress of his abstruse discoveries, we shall content ourselves with the outline of one particular portion of the studies to which his mind devoted its powers. It is a remarkable fact that the Apocalypse should have fixed the attention of two such great philosophers as Napier and Newton. We shall first quote Mr. Napier's just complaint of the neglect his worthy ancestor has experienced.

*Comparison with Buchanan.*—"We have now to name the man whom contemporary eulogists were most apt to select as a pendant to Napier; and that is the popular Buchanan, who became principal of St. Leonard's College in 1567. 'The intellectual endowments of George Buchanan,' says Dr. Irving, 'reflect the highest splendour on the land of his nativity; and every scholar who derives his origin from the same country is bound to cherish and revere his memory.' 'The history of Buchanan is the history of an individual unrivalled in modern times.' There is some exaggeration in this estimate. It is what may be said of Napier, but not of Buchanan. He ranks high in the learning of his country; but to render the praise of his biographer not hyperbolic, the heart of Buchanan ought to have been purer, and his head more profound. Blackwood says of him, with great truth, that he was 'homme ingrat, et disloyal;' and when we examine his conduct and his writings in reference to the history of Queen Mary, with the aid of those proofs which have been collected within these few years to illustrate that unhappy page of our history, no impartial mind can come to any other conclusion, than that Buchanan was a rogue. His admirers have claimed for him an apotheosis with the eloquent and elegant Livy; but he may find himself—under the fiat of eternal justice—nearer the reprobate Sallust. In popular estimation his name is much more identified with the erudition of his country than Napier's. Our philosopher has acquired with the vulgar the equivocal status in letters of a warlock; but there are men in our own times, of considerable literary attainments, who will afford him no higher praise than the sneer of Iago—"forsooth a great arithmetician." Napier," says an

author of historical celebrity, 'has much merit, but cannot stand in the rank of great inventors. He is only an useful abbreviator of a particular branch of the mathematics.' Sir David Brewster (or the writer he employed) ransacked his memory to record the names of those whose literary achievements illustrate Scotland, and forgot only John Napier. But had he omitted the name of George Buchanan, the very printers' devils would have mobbed the disciple of Newton on the streets of Modern Athens.'"

*Early turn of his Mind.*—"In the mass of learned and minute information respecting St. Andrews, afforded by Dr. McCre in his Life of Andrew Melville, I find it stated that some time at this period 'the students were exercised once a-week in theological disputations, at which one of the masters presided, and the rest were present and took a share in the debate. The disputants were exhorted to avoid the altercation usually practised in the schools, and not to bite and devour one another like dogs; but to behave as men desirous of mutual instruction, and as the servants of Christ, who ought not to strive, but to be gentle to all.' Napier, who throughout all his life was characterised by the utmost singleness of heart and the gentlest dispositions, appears, nevertheless, to have been able to keep his own, and even to play a conspicuous part, amid the gladiatorialship of intellect affected by his youthful competitors. From the moment his mind began to work, he aspired to be a Protestant champion, and applied his whole energies to that sacred cause. The fact is derived from his own words, which are the more interesting as they convey the solitary anecdote of his youth that is known to exist. In his address 'to the Godly and Christian reader,' prefixed to his 'Scriptural Commentaries,' he says, 'In my tender yeares and barneage in Sanct Androis, at the schooles, having, on the one part, contracted a loving familiaritie with a certaine gentleman, a Papist; and, on the other part, being attentive to the sermons of that worthy man of God, Maister Christopher Goodman, teaching upon the Apocalypse, I was so moved in admiration against the blindness of Papists, that could not most evidently see their seven-hilled citie Rome painted out there so lively by Saint John as the mother of all spiritual whoredom, that not onely burstit I out in continual reasoning against my said familiar, but also from thenceforth I determined with myselfe (by the assistance of God's spirit) to employ my studie and diligence to search out the remanent mysteries of that holy book; as to this houre (praised be the Lorde) I have bin doing at all such times as conveniently I might have occasion.' Thus from himself we have an explanation of his long retiring habits, and, at the same time, such a picture of the early vigour and independence of his mind as to make us wish for more. A youth, under fourteen years of age, listening so intensely to an exposition of the Apocalypse from the pulpit, and bursting forth in disputation with his Papistical friend and companion, until he conceived the daring project of leaving not a mystery of prophecy unfolded, is a trait seldom surpassed in the history of boyhood."

*Publication and Translation of his Work on the Apocalypse.*—"The mind of Napier was particularly agitated upon this occasion. He

"See Brewster's *Edinburgh Encyclopedia*, article Scotland. A chapter on the literature of Scotland is there given, in which every Scotchman of literary fame down to modern days (and particularly mathematicians) are specially enumerated, except Napier. The two striking events in our literary annals particularised are the poems of Ossian and the novels of Sir Walter Scott; but the invention of logarithms is passed in silence."

had been long brooding over the depths of the Apocalypse, and began to perceive a divine light breaking upon his hitherto obscure lucubrations. The sequel I shall give in his own words. 'Then,' says he, 'greatly rejoicing in the Lord, I began to write thereof in Latin; yet I purposed not to have set out the same suddenly, and far lesse to have written the same also in English, til that of late, this new insolencie of Papists, arising about the 1588 year of God, and dayly increasing within this land, doth so pitie our hearts, seeing them put more trust in Jesuites and seminarie priests than in the true Scriptures of God, and in the Pope and King of Spaine than in the King of Kings, that to prevent the same, I was constrained of compassion, leaving the Latin, to haste out in English this present worke, almost unripe, that thereby the simple of this land may be instructed, the godly confirmed, and the proud and foolish expectations of the wicked beaten downe; purposing hereafter, God willing, to publish shortly the other Latin edition hereof, to the publike utilitie of the whole church.'

"He was hitherto unknown on the continent; and this treatise had not the advantage of its author's ultimate reputation as a philosopher, to introduce it to the world. Yet it instantly found a translator; and no sooner was that arduous task completed than the work attracted the eyes of the most learned, both of Catholics and Protestants, in Europe. At this time the famous city of Rochelle was the citadel of the Hugonots in France, and there, as the very heart of the cause, Protestantism was cherished, and even defied the armies of antichrist. Among the champions of the true church in that city resided one George Thomson, a Scotchman by birth, who had become naturalised at Rochelle. According to his own account, he had neither been called to the ministry nor possessed the gift of original composition. 'But,' says he, 'I was nevertheless determined not to be totally useless, or to sit with my hands across during the war of religion; and so I did as they who, having no weapons of their own, snatch those of others, with which they fail not to pierce the enemy.' The weapon he seized was the work of his countryman, the value of which he instantly appreciated, and determined to translate it into French. 'The reasons,' he adds, 'which led the author of this work to compose it, induced me also to translate it; the zeal, namely, which all of us ought to possess for the glory of God, and the kingdom of his Son,' &c. 'And I trust that my translation may have even a greater effect than the original, which being hitherto clothed in a language known but to a few, and confined to a land surrounded by the ocean, has never been blazed abroad until now that it is made to speak in a language familiar to Europe. Then, the sound of it had scarcely crossed the ocean, but now it shall awaken antichrist in his very lair,' &c. These proud anticipations were not entirely disappointed. The translation attracted great attention throughout the continent. The Protestants bowed as if an oracle had spoken, and the Catholics looked to their champions for a reply. At this time the famous Joseph Juste de la Scala, or Scaliger, swayed the sceptre of letters. He was ten years older than Napier, and may have been known to him abroad. Certainly our philosopher was well acquainted with his writings, and especially with his most important work, the treatise *De Emendatione Temporum*, published at Paris in 1583. This was the first attempt to treat of chronology as a science, and seems to stand in the same

relation to history that the *Novum Organum* of Bacon does to a more extended circle of human knowledge. The noble plan and varied erudition of the work had been deeply studied by Napier, who seems to have taken it as the basis of his own chronology. Scaliger, though his father died a Catholic, had embraced the Calvinistic doctrines; and, at the time our philosopher's work appeared, interested himself deeply in the success of the Protestant church. It would have been exceedingly curious to have found his recorded opinion of Napier's 'Plain Discovery.' The subject of the Apocalypse was one which, sometimes at least, Scaliger professed to consider unapproachable. He praised Calvin for not attempting to fathom it: 'None,' said he, 'has better unravelled the prophets than Calvin, but he was wise to leave the Apocalypse as he found it.' Calvin himself, when asked his opinion on the subject, is said to have declared openly his total ignorance of what that obscure writer would be at. Such sentiments were equivalent to a denial of the inspired character of that portion of the Scriptures; but, had either of them been conscious of the capacity of producing a treatise on the subject like Napier's, all Europe would have rung with the attempt. There is no doubt of the fact, however, that the 'Plain Discovery' was brought under the special notice of the 'Dictator of Letters'; and the perusal may have changed his views considerably as to the propriety of leaving the Apocalypse without a commentary. Scaliger had an intimate correspondent and devoted admirer in one 'Jacques Esprichard,' a zealous Hugonot, and apparently a man of learning and considerable weight in Paris. In a letter from him to Scaliger, dated at Paris, 5th July 1602, the following passage occurs: 'Our churches here and at Guyenne are in a prosperous state, and their daily increase is very perceptible. This enrages our enemies, who would fain involve us in fresh turmoils, and thus impede the course of the Gospel, seeing as they do the total ruin of their papal and papistical darknesses near at hand. There is a commentary upon the Apocalypse in great estimation among us at present. The author is a Scotch gentleman who rejoices in the name of Peerless. You must have read it; and therefore I treat you, sir, to send me your judgment of its merits, as you know I bow to that more than to the judgment of any other man in the world.' Unfortunately, Scaliger's reply is not to be found in the little rare volume from which the above is derived. It was not in France only that Napier now became revered. Germany longed for the acquisition of the fruits of his labours; and at the commencement of the year 1627, his commentaries had gone through their third German edition at Frankfurt on the Main. It was there entitled 'the Beautiful and long-wished for Exposition of the Revelations of St. John, by John Napier, an excellent Scottish divine,' &c.; and such was the sensation created, that the more learned of the Catholics indicated some intentions of taking the field publicly against its author. In 1611, after three editions had been published at Rochelle and one at Frankfurt, another English edition appeared. In his preface to this, Napier states, that, 'after the first edition of this book in our English or Scottish tongue, I thought to have published shortly the same in Latin, (as yet, God willing, I mind to do,) to the public utility of the whole church. But understanding, on the one part, that this work is now imprinted and set out divers times in the French and Dutch tongues, besides these our English editions, and thereby made public

to many; as on the other part, being advertised that our papistical adversaries were to write largely against the said editions that are already set out; therefore I have as yet deferred the Latin edition, till, having first seen the adversaries' objections, I may insert in the Latin edition an apology of that which is rightly done, and an amends of whatsoever is amiss.' This threatened hostility on the part of the Catholics never arrived at publication, although the object of it continued to pass through a variety of editions, both at home and abroad. Consequently Napier's Latin work did not appear, and the lightened task descended to Joseph Mede. Such, generally, was the origin and reception of a work most unaccountably neglected in every biographical notice of its illustrious author hitherto attempted."

Mr. Napier seems no friend to the cheap treatises so much now the fashion. The following are among the blunders he corrects:—

"Since the above went to press, there has been published 'An Historical View of the Progress of the Physical and Mathematical Sciences, from the earliest ages to the present times, by the Rev. Baden Powell, M.A. F.R.S. Savilian Professor of Geometry in the University of Oxford, 1834,' being a volume of Dr. Lardner's *Cyclopædia*. In that I find, p. 194, 'The intellectual character of Napier exhibits an instance of one of those singular inequalities which not unfrequently characterise high genius. Exact and comprehensive as were his views of mathematical truth, he could not discriminate other kinds; and engaged with all the sober assurance of certainty in a puerile commentary, in which he imagined he had deciphered all the mysteries of the Apocalypse. He died in 1622.' He died in 1617. These Cabinet Cyclopædias and Libraries of Useful Knowledge will be the ruin of British letters. Where the treatises are original, they are not always founded upon research; and where they seem most meritorious, the labours of others have been adopted with just such acknowledgment as may serve to save the honour of the compiler. After repeating Professor Playfair's beautiful eulogy of the Logarithms, Professor Powell adopts an idea of Napier's theological commentaries, apparently not founded upon the most cursory inspection of the work, and certainly upon no critical or historical consideration of its merits.

"A very absurd mistake as to this signature occurs in some notices of Napier, published in 1830 by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. 'The first name we shall mention is that of John Napier—often, but erroneously, called Lord Napier. He was not a nobleman, but only what would in England be called a lord of a manor. Such persons, in Scotland, were formerly designated *barones minores*, or *lesser barons*; and to this class the baron of Bradwardine belonged as well as Napier, who in like manner was baron, or, as he himself expresses it, 'Peer of Marchis-toun,'—an old seat of the family in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh.'—*Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties*. Napier was as likely to have signed pope as peer; which term was not then in use to express the rank of a nobleman. Having been, *more majorum*, invested with the fee of his paternal barony during his father's life, who retained the life-rent, our philosopher wrote his name accordingly.

"The Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge has Mephistophilised our philosopher. 'It was believed, it seems, that he was attended by a familiar spirit in the shape of a large black dog.'—*Pursuit of Knowledge*

*under Difficulties*. His contemporary Tycho was constantly attended by 'son chien, qu'il aimoit beaucoup, qu'il avoit même pris pour son symbole, et qu'il avoit fait représenter dans une médaille, où étoient gravés ces mots, *Tychohis Braheî delitum*.'—*Histoire des Philosophes Modernes*, tom v. p. 59, 1766. Upon the seal of a letter written by one of Napier's brothers, I find the symbol of a cock."

This is elucidated by the ensuing anecdote:—"There is this remarkable circumstance in his history, that while he possessed the respect and confidence of the most able and Christian pastors of the Reformed Church, and while he was looked up to and consulted by the General Assembly, of which he was for years a member, he was at the same time regarded, and not merely by the vulgar, as one who possessed certain powers of darkness, the very character of which was in those days dangerous to the possessor. Traditions to this effect might be met with in the cottages and nurseries in and about the metropolis of Scotland not many years ago; and the marvels attributed to our philosopher, with the aid of a jet-black cock, supposed to be a familiar spirit bound to him in that shape, have, within the memory of the present generation, been narrated by the old, and listened to by the young. We cannot help suspecting that the legend of the black cock is in some way connected with the hereditary office of king's poulterer (*Pultrio Regis*), for many generations in the family of Merchiston, and which descended to John Napier. This office is repeatedly mentioned in the family charters as appertaining to the '*pultrio landis*,' hard by the village of Dene, in the shire of Linlithgow. The duties were to be performed by the possessor or his deputies; and the king was entitled to demand the yearly homage of a present of poultry from the feudal holder. It is not improbable that our philosopher made a pet of some jetty chanticler, which he cherished as the badge of his office, and as worthy of being presented to the king, *si petatur*."

The volume is illustrated with some curious and fine portraits, especially one of Mary, Queen of Scots; and we observe that our author is among "her chivalry." The following legendary history, however, must close our extracts:—

"On the morning of the execution, while the queen was on her knees at the altar, Barbara Mowbray, and a young French lady of the name of Beauregard, complained to her physician Burgoine, that their names had been omitted in her will, (which the queen had hastily drawn up with her own hand,) and with tears entreated him to tell her so. No sooner was Mary informed of their affectionate complaint, than she rose from her kneeling posture, and remedied the omission by writing a remembrance of them upon the blank leaf of her book of devotion. \* \* \* As for Barbara, it is a curious fact that some time in the last century, a Flemish gentleman of talent and consideration in the Low Countries possessed an ancient Flemish manuscript, which narrated that William Curle, accompanied by two ladies of the same name, came over to Antwerp after the execution of the Queen of Scots, carrying with them a picture of that unhappy princess, and her head, which they had contrived to abstract; that in the little church of St. Andrew there, they buried this fearful relic at the foot of one of the pillars where their own tombs were to be, upon which pillar they hung the picture of their queen, and placed a marble slab to her memory. Thus far the Flemish manuscript. Whoever visits that little church

may still see upon the pillar that self-same picture of Mary Queen of Scots, and read the inscription which records her martyrdom. He will also find beneath it the tombs of Barbara Mowbray and Elizabeth Curle, and may peruse their story engraved upon the slabs that cover their dust."

This valuable work is inscribed to the king—a worthy offering to royalty, and which we again heartily recommend to the attention of his loyal subjects.

*Jacob Faithful.* By the Author of "Peter Simple," &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1834. Saunders and Otley.

Equally original and amusing, Captain Marryat is also the most national of our writers. He has traced for himself a path peculiarly English, and fills that path with characters as real as life can make them. They almost become confounded in our memory with people we have really known—so accurately are they painted, so vividly are their peculiarities brought before us. The nautical anecdotes are told with a relish peculiarly his own; and, instead of anticipating the story, and spoiling the reader's pleasure by previous knowledge, we shall select a few of the most delectable hits.

*Parental Anxiety: also a Shark.*—"Who might Port Royal Tom be?" inquired the Dominie; "a relation of yours?" "I hope not, master, for I wanted none of his acquaintance; he was a shark about twenty feet long, who rowed guard in the harbour to prevent the men-of-war's men from deserting, and was pensioned by government." Pensioned by government! nay, but that soundeth strangely. I have heard that pensions have been most lavishly bestowed, but not that it extended so far. Truly it must have been a sinecure." "I don't know what that last may be," replied old Tom, "but I heard our boatswain, in the Minerve, who talked politics a bit, say, 'as how half the pensions were held by a pack of d—d sharks; but in this here shark's case, it wasn't in money, master; but he'd regular rations of bullock's liver to persuade him to remain in the harbour, and no one dare swim on shore when he was cruising round and round the ships. Well, old Pigtown, with his white trousers and straw hat, red nose and big belly, was as well known as could be; and was a capital old fellow for remembering and executing commissions, provided you gave him the money first; if not, he always took care to forget them. Old Pigtown had a son, a little dark or so, which proved that his mother wasn't quite as fair as a lily, and this son was employed in a drogher, that is, a small craft which goes round to the bays of the island, and takes off the sugars to the West India traders. One fine day the drogher was driven out to sea and never heard of a'terwards. Now old Pigtown was very anxious about what had come of his son, and day after day expected he would come back again; but he never did, for very good reasons, as you shall hear by-and-by; and every one knowing old Pigtown, and he knowing every body, it was at least fifty times a day that the question was put to him, 'Well, Pigtown, have you heard any thing of your son?' And fifty times a-day he would reply, 'No; and my mind's but ill at ease.' Well, it was two or three months afterwards, that when I was in the schooner with him, as we lay becalmed between the islands, with the sun frizzling our wigs, and the planks so hot that you couldn't walk without your shoes, that we hooked a large shark which came bowling under our counter. We got him on board and cut him up. When we opened his inside, what

should I see but something shining. I took it out, and sure enough it was a silver watch. So I hands it to old Pigtown. He looks at it very tentively, opens the outside case, reads the maker's name, and then shuts it up again. 'This here watch,' says he, 'belonged to my son Jack. I bought it of a chap in a South Whaler for three dollars and a roll of pigtail, and a very good watch it was, though I perceive it be stopped now. Now, d'y'e see, it's all clear—the drogher must have gone down in a squall—the shark must have picked up my son Jack, and must have digested his body, but has not been able to digest his watch. Now I knows what's become of him, and so—my mind's at ease."

*Never judge by Appearances, or Sall's Shoe.*

—"Well, then, you must know when I was a-board of the Terp-sy-chore, there was a fore-topman, of the name of Bill Harness, a good sort of chap enough, but rather soft in the upper-works. Now we'd been on the Jamaica station for some years, and had come home, and merry enough, and happy enough we were, (those that were left of us), and were spending our money like the devil. Bill Harness had a wife, who was very fond of he, and he were very fond of she, but she was a slatternly sort of a body, never tidy in her rigging, all adrift at all times, and what's more, she never had a shoe up at heel, so she went by the name of Slatternly Sall; and the first lieutenant, who was a 'ticular sort of a chap, never liked to see her on deck, for you see she put her hair in paper on New Year's day, and never changed it or took it out till the year came round again. However, be it as it may be, she loved Bill, and Bill loved she, and they were very happy together. A'ter all, it arn't whether a woman's tidy without, that makes a man's happiness, it depends upon whether she be right within; that is, if she be good-tempered, and obliging, and civil, and 'commodating, and so forth. A'ter the first day or two, person's nothing—eyes get pallid, like the capstern when the anchor's up to the bows; but what a man likes is, not to be disturbed by vagaries, or gusts of temper. Well, Bill was happy—but one day he was devilish unhappy, because Sall had lost one of her shoes, which wasn't to be wondered at, considering as how she was always slipshod. 'Who has seen my wife's shoe?' says he. 'Hang your wife's shoe,' said one, 'it warn't worth casting an eye upon.' Still he cried out, 'Who has seen my wife's shoe?' 'I seed it,' says another. 'Where?' says Bill. 'I seed it down at heel,' says the fellow. But Bill still hallooed out about his wife's shoe, which it appeared she had dropped off her foot as she was going up the fore-castle ladder to take the air a bit, just as it was dark. At last, Bill made so much fuss about it that the ship's company laughed, and all called out to each other, 'Who has seen Sall's shoe?'—'Have you got Sall's shoe?' and they passed the word fore and aft the whole evening, till they went to their hammocks. Notwithstanding, as Sall's shoe was not forthcoming, the next morning Bill goes on the quarter-deck, and complains to the first lieutenant as how he had lost Sall's shoe: 'D—n Sall's shoe,' said he, 'haven't I enough to look after without your wife's confounded shoes, which can't be worth twopence.' Well, Bill argues that his wife has only one shoe left, and that won't keep two feet dry, and begs the first lieutenant to order a search for it; but the first lieutenant turns away, and tells him to go to the devil, and all the men grin at Bill's making such a fuss about nothing. So Bill at last goes

up to the first lieutenant, and whispers something, and the first lieutenant booms him off with his speaking-trumpet, as if he was making too free, in whispering to his commanding officer, and then sends for the master-at-arms. 'Collier,' says he, 'this man has lost his wife's shoe; let a search be made for it immediately—take all the ship's boys, and look every where for it; if you find it, bring it up to me.' So away goes the master-at-arms with his cane, and collects all the boys to look for Sall's shoe—and they go peeping about the main-deck, under the guns, and under the hen-coops, and in the sheep-pen, and every where; now and then getting a smart slap with the cane behind, upon the taut parts of their trousers, to make them look sharp, until they all wished Sall's shoe at Old Nick, and her too, and Bill in the bargain. At last one of the boys picks it out of the manger, where it had lain all the night, poked up and down by the noses of the pigs, who didn't think it eatable, although it might have smelt human-like; the fact was, it was the boy who had picked up Sall's shoe when she dropped it, and had shied it forward. It certainly did not seem to be worth all the trouble, but howsoever it was taken aft by the master-at-arms, and laid on the capstern head. Then Bill steps out, and takes the shoe before the first lieutenant, and cuts it open, and from between the lining pulls out four ten-pound notes, which Sall had sewn up there by way of security; and the first lieutenant tells Bill he was a great fool to trust his money in the shoe of a woman who always went slipshod, and tells him to go about his business, and stow his money away in a safer place next time. A'ter, if any thing was better than it looked to be, the ship's company used always to say it was like Sall's shoe."

*American Dialogue.*—"It was the captain of the American schooner, from out of which we were then taking the casks of flour. 'We've no service in our country, I've a notion, my old bob-tail roarer,' said he. 'When do you come alongside of my schooner, for 'tother lading, with this raft of yours? Not to-night, I guess.' 'Well, you've guessed right this time,' replied old Tom, 'we shall lie on the mud till to-morrow morning, with your permission.' 'Yes, for all the world like a Louisiana alligator. You take things coolly, I've a notion, in the old country. I don't want to be hanging head and stars in this little bit of a river of yours. I must be back to New York afore fever time.' 'She be a pretty craft, that little thing of yours,' observed old Tom; 'how long may she take to make the run?' 'How long? I expect in just no time; and she'd go as fast again, only she won't wait for the breeze to come up with her.' 'Why don't you heave-to for it?' said young Tom. 'Lose too much time, I guess. I've been chased by an easterly wind all the way from your Land's End to our Narrows, and it never could overhaul me.' 'And I presume the porpoises give it up in despair, don't they?' replied old Tom, with a leer; 'and yet I've seen the creatures playing across the bows of an English frigate at her speed, and laughing at her.' 'They never play their tricks with me, old snapper; if they do, I cuts them in halves, and a-starn they go, head part floating on one side, and tail part on the other.' 'But don't they join together again when they meet in your wake?' inquired Tom. 'Shouldn't wonder,' replied the American captain. 'Pray, captain, what may be that vessel they talk so much about at New York?' Old Tom referred to the first steam-vessel, whose qualities at that time had been tried, and an exaggerated report of which had

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been copied from the American papers. 'That ship, or whatever she may be, that sails without masts, yards, or canvass; it's quite above my comprehension.' 'Old country heads can't take it in. I'll tell you what—she goes slick through the water, a-head or a-stern, broad-side on, or up or down, or any way; and all you have to do is to poke the fire and warm your fingers; and the more you poke, the faster she goes, 'gainst wind and tide.' 'Well, I must see that to believe it, though,' replied old Tom. 'No fear of a capsiz, I calculate. My little craft did upset with me one night, in a pretty considerable heavy gal; but she's smart, and came up again on the other side in a moment, all right as before. Never should have known any thing about it, if the man at the wheel had not found his jacket wet, and the men below had a round turn in all the clues of their hammocks.' 'After that round turn, you may belay,' cried young Tom, laughing. 'Yes, but don't let's have a stopper over all, Tom,' replied his father. 'I consider all this excessively diverting. Pray, captain, does every thing else go fast in the new country?' 'Every thing with us clean slick, I guess.' 'What sort of horses have you in America?' inquired I. 'Our Kentucky horses, I've a notion, would surprise you. They're almighty goers; at a trot, beat a N.W. gal of wind. I once took an Englishman with me in a gig up Allibama country, and he says, 'What's this great churchyard we are passing through?' 'And, stranger,' says I, 'I calculate it's nothing but the mile-stones, we are passing so slick.' But I once had a horse, who, I expect, was a deal quicker than that. I once seed a flash of lightning chase him for half an hour round the clearance, and I guess it couldn't catch him. But I can't wait no longer. I expect you'll come alongside to-morrow afore meridian.' 'Ay, ay, master,' replied old Tom, tuning up—

'Twas post meridian, half-past four,  
By signal I from Nancy parted;  
At five she lingered on the shore,  
With uplift eyes and broken-hearted.'

'I calculate you are no fool of a screamer,' said the American, shoving off his boat from the barge, and pulling to his vessel. 'And I calculate you're no fool of a liar,' said young Tom, laughing. 'Well, so he is; but I do like a good lie, Jacob, there's some fun in it. But what the devil does the fellow mean by calling a gale of wind—a gal?'"

We commend especial attention to the chief boatman's history, who proves incontrovertibly that our fine senses are very much in the way. But the work is full of character and of incident, and will, we doubt not, be a universal favourite.

#### MACARIUS'S TRAVELS: PART II.

(Fourth Notice.)

It is an amusing thing to look back a couple of centuries. Wise as we are in our generation, we may learn much from those whom we cannot consider to have been wise at all. They had no Sunday schools, no march of intellect, no Societies for the Profusion of Useful, Entertaining, Pseudo, or any other kind of Knowledge. But they had their follies, as we hope we still continue to have ours: as for vices and crimes, no matter what *Ed. L. G.* thinks, we will put in no claim for competition.

We regret, however, that we can this week only afford space for the remarkable story promised in our last notice; with which we conclude our review of Part II.

"In Klor, there came to our lord the patri-

arch a distinguished ecclesiastic, by birth a Greek, whose residence was in Paris, the capital of France. He was extremely eager to have an interview with us, having lately come as envoy from the Virgin Queen of Sweden to the Khatman Akhmil, to whom this princess had sent, a considerable time ago, two ambassadors besides this man: and as her territory is contiguous to that of the Poles, these had discovered the mission of her envoys, and arrested them on their passage. She had now, therefore, sent this priest to Constantinople: and thence he was to come among the Cossacks, to the Khatman Akhmil, with a letter from her, addressed to him, in praise of his achievements, and in thanksgiving for his exertions and for what he had done against her enemies the Poles; who, as we formerly mentioned, had made the conquest of much of her dominions. She wrote to him: 'You are to know, with all certainty, that I have been equipping for you, on this side of my frontier, sixty thousand auxiliary warriors, to enable you finally to vanquish my enemies.' Accordingly, after this ecclesiastic had had an interview with the Khatman, this chief despatched letters, in answer to her, by an envoy of his own, who was to accompany him. With this ambassador, therefore, of the Khatman's, the said ecclesiastic proceeded to the court of the Emperor of Moscow, conveying also to him a letter of the like import; for the confines of the queen's territory are bordering on those of Muscovy, and between them and the emperor great friendship exists. In her kingdom, indeed, the multitude of sojourning Muscovite subjects is great. Here, I say, by way of commentary, 'Who art thou, O Akhmil! to have worn the peasant's clog (as thy enemies the Poles say of thee that thou didst), and yet to be such, that kings and queens send embassies to thee, and offer thee splendid gifts? Glory be to God alone, who has raised thee up, and humbled thy adversaries under thy feet!' To return:—this priest, who was named Baba Elia, told us that there had appeared in these times, in the kingdom of France, a learned philosopher of the sect of Lutherus, to whom numerous followers had become attached. This man stepped forward openly to revile the pope, by many demonstrations; one of which was, that he sent a letter to the pontiff, at Rome, propounding to him a question:—'There was a prince of exalted dignity, who had five sons, all of whom he loved with equal affection; to whom he equally divided the succession of his principality. So, however, it fell out, that one of them separated from the rest, and turned aside, and surrendered himself to the suggestions of his own mind; whilst the other four remained true to their mutual friendship, and to the last will and mandate of their father. Which, then, is the obedient son? he who singly went forth from his brethren to choose a part for himself, or each of the four brothers who persevered in their fidelity?'—To which he subjoined the answer, saying: 'If the four patriarchs, and the pope, making the fifth, have been constituted since the time of Petrus the apostle, and the rest of the apostles, and from the holy councils, and remained united, as is well known, for a great length of time in the orthodox faith; if afterwards the pope declined from them, and divided himself from the body of which he was a member, or rather from the hand of five fingers, himself being one; then obedience is due to the four consentients, not to the single dissident.' Baba Elia went on to say: When the pope read this letter, and there was not one of

his council who could reply to it, out of the excess of his rage he sent to the reigning King of France, and commanded him to put the said philosopher to death, lest this discourse of his should be promulgated throughout the world, and the church be defiled by his opinions. The king answered, saying: 'I have it not in my power to do that which your holiness enjoins me—to be active in detriment of my indweller; for there are now within my dominions, two hundred thousand families that trust in their religion to the guidance of this sectarian, and all love him; whilst around my territory, besides those within it, are numerous and powerful enemies, such as the tribe of English and Flemish, the Swedish nation, &c. On the other hand, your holiness is in Rome, and there are none around you nor within your estates but Romans. I have, therefore, no power to put him to death.' The aforesaid philosopher gave, also, a second answer; that, 'Whereas the pope pretends to be the successor of Petrus the apostle, the first to lay this claim is the Patriarch of Antioch, because Petrus the apostle was the first that became patriarch in that city, where he sat in supreme honour; in Rome, on the contrary, he suffered an ignominious death on the cross.' We were informed by the same priest, that in all the Frank countries much love is felt towards the Patriarch of Antioch; and that they have entire credence in him, to the exception of all others but the Alexandrian. As for the patriarchs of Constantinople and Jerusalem, they hate the one, by reason of their national relations; the other they detest, on account of his malignancy towards the Franks who visit Jerusalem."

[To be continued.]

#### ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Antilles, 1833.

SIR,—To these trifles, the amusement of my leisure hours, I pretend not to arrogate any intrinsic merit; and the only pretext I could have for troubling you with them, was a hope that there might be some little novelty in poetry from the Tropics, and a slight recommendation, perhaps, derived from my living amid the regions I attempted, however feebly, to illustrate. I now submit to your consideration a piece, which, in my diffidence to give it the ambitious title of Ode, I have called a Madrigal. Humboldt, in passing through the Canaries, expresses a hope, "that at some future period, they will, like every other climate of the globe, inspire the muse of some native poet;" and let us extend this classic hope to the Antilles. The following is a short tribute to a few of their sylvan attractions; and if it shall be found deserving of your approval, it will fulfil the wishes, and stimulate the future attempts of, sir, your much obliged and very obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR.

#### MADRIGAL.

— "As the fervid meridian hour approached, the young Creole, bending on her a glance full of the ardour of his climate, was heard to address her in these words:—*Romance des Îles Antilles.*

We'll seek, at noon, the palmy shade,  
Nor envy England's beechen glade;  
For, purple as heaven's vault above,  
The violet sea invites to love;  
And soft airs, answering, as they fly,  
With blandishments, the jasmine's sigh.

There, basking in noon's golden blaze,  
And trembling through the azure haze,  
The far-seen isles exulting lave  
Their beauties in the glassy wave.

Bright is the beam of day that smiles  
Upon the sweet Egean isles;

And brilliant that whose splendours rest  
On the fair "Islands of the Blest;"  
But brighter far the urns that steep  
In light these gems of Hesper's deep,  
And pour upon their skies sublime  
The splendours of an orient clime.  
The glorious Sun, in regal state,  
Though fresh from Asia's ruby gate,  
And fragrant from the feast of flowers  
The Spice Isles sprang, in sandal bowers,  
Glews to behold, in Western tides,  
The semblance of his Eastern brides.

What though no gushing fountains burst  
To shake the sultry season's thirst,  
Young Eurus leads a joyful train  
Of ocean-breezes o'er the main,  
And sheds, benignant, as he roves,  
Luxurious freshness through our groves.  
In vain the Sun his furnace heats,  
When lemon-walks give cool retreats;  
And vain the world of fire he wields  
Where cedars raise their emerald shields.

What though no myrtle arbour smiles,  
To lure Love from his Grecian lares,  
The orange-orchard he shall own  
Delicious as his myrtle thrones;  
And every favoured haunt he flies,  
To view, in thine, his Psyche's eyes.

Reft of his scythe, here powerless Time  
Deforms not deathless summer's prime:  
Bud, fruit, and flower, for thee diffuse  
The broderies of their blended hues.  
The Heptarian lily's languid grace  
Half-veils the cordia's scarlet face—  
Like the white brow of maiden shame  
Drooped on her warrior's cheek of fame:  
There passion-flowers perfume the air,  
And here the acacia's golden hair  
The purple-breast's rich bands confine—  
Like blue beads round those locks of thine.

Nor shall the western bulbul fall  
To pour his music on the gale;  
And, whilst with me the shades rejoice  
To hear by turns thy whispered voice,  
Shall vainly task his honied throat  
To emulate that sweeter note.

Then seek with me our Indian grove!  
We'll envy not the North's cold love,  
Nor seek of Europe's beechen glades,  
Reclining in these palmy shades.

LAMBDA.

## LITERARY AND LEARNED.

## RUNIC INSCRIPTION.

A DANISH journal (the *Dansk Ugeskrift*) has lately published a report from the pen of M. Finn Magnussen, keeper of the archives, relative to the most ancient known Danish inscription, that on the Runic stone on the heath of Braavalla, in Blekingen, which, ever since the twelfth century, has been the subject of fruitless investigation. The Royal Academy of Sciences at Copenhagen last year sent a commission, consisting of M. Finn Magnussen, M. Molbech, counsellor of justice, and M. Forchhammer, a naturalist, to examine whether these enigmatical characters were to be considered as writing, or as a mere *lusus nature*. These gentlemen positively decided against the last hypothesis, though unable to explain the meaning of the inscription. M. Finn Magnussen, however, lately conceived the happy thought of endeavouring to read it from right to left, by which all became suddenly clear. It is in the old Norwegian language, in the most ancient alliterative verse, or syllabic rhyme; and was composed shortly before the battle on the heath of Braavalla, about the year 735, being a prayer to Odin, Freya, and other divinities, to give to King Harald Hiltetkinn (Hildetand) the victory over the perfidious princes Ring and Ole. Counsellor Schlegel has made the appropriate remark, that this, the oriental mode of writing, is the most

ancient; that it was superseded on the introduction of Christianity, and, therefore, that it affords a valuable criterion to determine the antiquity of the Runic stones. This discovery will doubtless lead to the explanation of other Runic monuments scattered over Europe and even beyond its boundaries. We may shortly expect from M. Finn Magnussen some farther light respecting the voyage which, in his opinion, Columbus made to Iceland in the year 1477.

## FINE ARTS.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Illustrations to Heath's Picturesque Annual; 1835.* Hodgson, Boys, and Graves.

"SCOTT and Scotland." It is difficult to say which of this alliterative, but never-to-be-disjoined, pair of words is calculated to excite in the mind the more vivid ideas of the picturesque; but, however vivid those ideas may be, they will be found to be completely realised in this exquisitely beautiful set of illustrations; all of which are from the designs of Mr. George Cattermole, whose taste and talents have been frequently eulogised in the *Literary Gazette*, especially in our notices of the exhibitions of the Society of Painters in Water-colours; but whose productions never, previously to the present occasion, came before the public in so extensive and finished a shape. We do not know of any living artist who possesses more of what is called "a painter's feeling" than Mr. Cattermole. Whatever he touches he invests with a character which shews the power of that feeling in the most striking manner. His landscapes, his sea-views, his buildings, his interiors, and his groups of animated nature, all have the peculiar charm to which we have just adverted—and it is a charm the value of which cannot be over-rated. Hitherto the only objection that could be urged to Mr. Cattermole was, that he was rather too sketchy; that he left somewhat too much to the imagination of the spectator. We have not seen the drawings from which the delightful plates before us have been engraved; but, if we may judge from the prints, those drawings, without losing an iota of the spirit and attention to general effect by which Mr. Cattermole's pencil has been invariably distinguished, have much more of detail and making out than he has been accustomed to submit to. The number of plates is twenty-one. The principal works illustrated are, "Old Mortality," "The Heart of Mid Lothian," "Rob Roy," "Marmion," "The Abbot," and "The Monastery." Our chief favourites are "The Crypt under Glasgow Cathedral," engraved by J. Goodyear; "Melrose Abbey," engraved by T. Higham; "Lochleven Castle," engraved by R. Brandard; "Queen Mary's Closet," engraved by J. Lewis; "The Great Hall, Craignethan Castle," engraved by J. Goodyear; "Edinburgh Castle," engraved by J. H. Kernot; "The Guard-Room in Stirling Chapel," engraved by R. Brandard; "Roslyn Chapel," engraved by T. Higham; "Fall of the Clyde," engraved by J. T. Willmore; "Murder of the Regent Murray," engraved by C. Henth; "The Forth at Queen's Ferry," engraved by J. H. Kernot; and, above all, "Queen Mary's Bedchamber, Holyrood House," engraved by J. Lewis. In the last-mentioned it is impossible to contemplate without emotion the venerable bard (the resemblance of whom is wonderfully well preserved for so small a figure), seated in an antique chair, gazing on the relics of former days which are spread before him; and apparently weaving in his inexhaustible imagination one of those fascinating tales which

have done his country such honour, and which have rendered his own name imperishable.

*Switzerland.* By William Beattie, M. D.; illustrated in a series of Views by W. H. Bartlett, Esq. Part I. Virtue.

"WHOEVER has travelled much," observes Dr. Beattie, "and compared the various attractions presented to him in the course of his peregrinations, will generally be found to admit, that if there be any country which merits more attention than the rest, that country is Switzerland." However we may be disposed to doubt the perfect accuracy of this observation (ingeniously supported as it is by subsequent remarks), no one can hesitate to allow its strict justice when applied to natural scenery. Helvetic landscape unquestionably unites the beautiful and the sublime to an extent elsewhere unknown; and, of course, affords abundant, and indeed exhaustless, materials for picturesque illustrations. Mr. Bartlett has long established his character as a draughtsman, and Mr. Wallis (by whom, and under whose direction, the plates are to be executed) as an engraver; so that the public may look forward to much amusement and gratification from this work; the present part of which, besides a vignette in the title-page, representing a Swiss cottage, contains views of "Thun, with the Bernese Alps," "Zurich," "Castle of Spiez, Lake of Thun," and "Val d'Ossola;" all interesting, the last-mentioned pre-eminently so.

## ORIGINAL POETRY.

## AN OBJURGATORY EPISTLE.

"Non tecum possum vivere, nec sine te."

MADAM, I mean dear Laura—no, I don't,—I mean—what matters it? you know my meaning;

I have your letter, and it is my wont  
To shew to courtesy a proper leaning;  
Therefore I write. Think not I own your power,

Nor call thy sex's practised arts about thee,  
Because I said, in love's unguarded hour,  
"There is no living with thee, or without thee."

You promise never to offend me more—  
Ah, thou deceitful one!—and vow repentance;

You say you always thought Delmaine a bore,  
And beg me to recall my cruel sentence:  
"An oath, an oath—I have an oath in heaven!"

Were all that's faithful, treacherous girl,  
about thee,  
Those words should never from my lips be  
riven,

"There is no living with thee, or without thee."

What! shall I sit, with half-averted face,  
While every pulse with rage and shame is  
beating;

To see that puppy basking in your grace,  
While your cold glance meets my eye's  
silent greeting?

Shall I submit to see each emptiest head  
A walking piece of furniture about thee?  
Good God! to think I should have ever said,—  
"There is no living with thee, or without thee!"

No, by those golden hours so swiftly past;  
By those bright smiles you gave me when  
you won me;  
By all the hopes I set upon the cast;  
By the fond foolish heart that has undone me;

\* *Fusus volubilis*, a most graceful and ornamental climber.

\* "The lovelorn nightingale of a silent tropic noon."—*Coleridge's Sir Months in the West Indies*.

\* "It would be unfair (notwithstanding what Buffon and others assert) to deny the power of song to many of the feathered inhabitants of the tropical regions."—*Wilson's American Ornithology*.

By all those bitter banquets tears have brought;  
By all that once was dear and loved about  
thee;

I swear to banish from my breast the thought—  
“There is no living with thee, or without  
thee!”

Oh, Laura! if you ever drew a sigh,  
How could you thus Affection's bond dis-  
sever?

How could you every woman's engine ply  
To rack a heart would have been yours for  
ever?

Then, that abhorred Delmaine! to see the jay  
Fluttering in all his coxcomby about thee,  
And, grant me patience! hear you laughing  
say,

“There is no living with thee, or without  
thee!”

In vain you strive to bring me to your lure;  
In vain pour forth a thousand false pro-  
fessions;

In vain protest your love must still endure,  
And blot, with well-feigned tears, your past  
transgressions;

No more shall woman's tears or smiles ensnare  
A heart whose very being dwelt about thee,  
When plagued by your caprice I used to swear—  
“There was no living with thee, or without  
thee.”

E'en as the closing steel now parts in twain  
The silken band from which so long de-  
pend.

The mimic partner of thy wayward reign,  
—Torn are our ties—my dream of love is  
ended.

Take it! I cannot wear that portrait now,  
‘Twill grace, no doubt, some favour'd fop  
about thee:

Let other lips in love's fond quarrels vow—  
“There is no living with thee, or without  
thee.”

Ah, fair, but false one, 'tis thyself indeed!  
Too true the image of thy syren beauty;  
There breathes the form I deemed the highest  
meed [duty.

Could smooth the toilsome path of rugged  
Thine that arch smile which lurks in every fea-  
ture,

That air of witching coquetry about thee—  
Come to my heart, thou dear, tormenting  
creature—

“There is no living with thee, or without  
thee!”

#### SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

COLERIDGE.

THE last number of the *Canterbury Magazine* (a recently established provincial publication of great ability) contains, under the signature of “Geoffrey Oldcastle,” a very animated character of Coleridge; evidently written by one who was well acquainted with that extraordinary man. Among other interesting matter, Mr. Oldcastle, advertising to Coleridge's admirable course of Lectures on Shakespeare, says: “It formed a part of the above course to give a critical and philosophical analysis of some of Shakespeare's characters; and well do I remember his magnificent development of the bard's conceptions in those of *Lear*, *Macbeth*, the *Weird Sisters*, *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *Romeo* and *Juliet*, &c. No man living—no man, perhaps, among all those who have at any time undertaken to analyse and expound the writings of Shakespeare, ever studied him so profoundly, or was so thoroughly imbued with his mighty spirit, as Coleridge. No one could follow his

daring flights with an eye so piercing and steady; and it may be doubted whether Shakespeare himself was so intimately acquainted with all he had written as Coleridge, who had worshipped him for years with the deep devotion of idolatry. Warning, as he frequently would, with his theme, he poured forth such a full tide of mind, in tracing the course of the mind of Shakespeare, portrayed with such a glowing mixture of passion, philosophy, and poetry, its great creations, that surely, could Shakespeare himself have listened to the revelation of his own imaginings, he would have exclaimed, ‘Yes! it was thus I intended.’ How sensitively Coleridge felt the attempt to transfer to the brows of a foreign critic (Schlegel) the merit which he considered belonged to himself, of having been the first to insist upon the superiority of Shakespeare's ‘judgment’ over even his ‘wonderful genius,’ will be seen by the following letter, which I received from him during the progress of these lectures. It contains also a melancholy and desponding view of his own situation at the time.

‘Wo is me! that at forty-six I am under the necessity of appearing as a lecturer, and obliged to regard every hour that I give to the *permanent*, whether as poet or philosopher, an hour stolen from others’ as well as from my own maintenance; so that after a life (for I might be said to have commenced in earliest childhood)—a life of observation, meditation, and almost encyclopedic studies, I am forced to bewail, as in my poem addressed to Mr. Wordsworth—

Sense of past youth and manhood come in vain,  
And genius given and knowledge won in vain,  
And all which I had culled in wood-walks wild,  
And all which patient toil had reared, and all  
Commune with Thee had opened out,—but flowers  
Strewed on my corse, and borne upon my bier,  
In the same coffin to the self-same grave.

Wo from without, but well for me, however, from within, that I have been ‘more sinned against than sinning.’ My lectures are, though not very numerous, yet very respectfully attended—and as respectfully attended to. For no small portion of the former I am indebted to the favourable notice taken of them in the —; and, occasionally, in the *New Times* and *Morning Chronicle*. My next Friday's lecture will, if I do not grossly flatter-blind myself, be interesting, and the points of view not only original, but new to the audience. I make this distinction, because sixteen, or rather seventeen, years ago, I delivered eighteen lectures on Shakespeare at the Royal Institution—three-fourths of which appeared at that time startling paradoxes, which have since been adopted even by men who at the time made use of them as proofs of my flighty and paradoxical turn of mind—all tending to prove that Shakespeare's judgment was, if possible, still more wonderful than his genius: or rather, that the contra-distinction itself between judgment and genius, rested on an utterly false theory. This, and its proofs and grounds have been, I should not have said adopted, but produced as their own legitimate children—nay, the merit given to a foreign writer, whose lectures were not given orally till two years after mine, rather than to their countryman, though I dare appeal to the most adequate judges—as Sir G. Beaumont, the Bishop of Durham, Mr. Sotheby, and afterwards to Mr. Rogers and Lord Byron, whether there is one single principle in Schlegel's work (which is not an admitted drawback from its merits) that was not established and applied in detail by me. Plutarch tells us, that egotism is a venial fault in the unfortunate, and justifiable in the calumniated; yet, I

should not have done this violence to me, but that Mr. Wordsworth—for whose fame I had felt and fought with an ardour that amounted to absolute self-oblivion, and to which I owe mainly the rancour of the Edinburgh clan, and (far more injurious to me) the coldness, neglect, and equivocal compliments of the *Quarterly Review*—has affirmed, in print, that a German critic first taught us to think correctly concerning Shakespeare.’”

#### DRAMA.

##### ROYAL KENT THEATRE.

IF exertion on the part of the manager, and talent on that of the performers, merit success, this elegant little *bijou* of a theatre well deserves it. Among its varieties, we had the pleasure a few nights since of witnessing a new piece, in one act, called *The Barber of Kensington*, founded on a tradition that a young man, a barber of that place, who had attracted the regard of several female residents, was led by his vanity to encourage them all. This, however, is rather the theatrical version of the matter; for the truth, we believe, was, that the several females, on comparing notes, found they had fixed their affections on the same man. Be this as it may, there is a great deal of farcical humour displayed in the performance; and much interest is given to the joke, by the circumstance of the locality of the scene (*Jenning's Buildings*)—the barber's (we beg pardon, the hair-dresser's) shop, at the corner, having been of some years' standing, and remaining there to this day. *Strop*, the hero of the piece, was played by Mr. Raymond, and the principal female by Miss Poole. The latter and Mrs. Cremes, in the interesting drama of *Marie Antoinette*, continue to sustain the reputation which they had so justly acquired in their characters of the *Queen* and *Louise*. Similar praise is due to Mr. Tilbury and Mr. Denvil in the piece we have just mentioned.

#### VARIETIES.

*Fine Writing*.—One night last week a stage-coach took fire on the road to Exeter. In a provincial paper it is stated, that the accident occurred “in consequence of a fumigatory passenger dropping his igneous apparatus.”

*Noisy Visitor*.—The following information appeared in the *Times* yesterday:—“On Monday last, Sir Richard Sutton commenced hooting on Col. Peel's manor at ten minutes past seven, and finished at eight minutes past three!” having been on horseback nearly the whole time. It is dryly added—“this fact is without precedent.”

*Zincography*.—Lithography, it is said, is likely to be superseded, at least in a great degree, by the invention of an ingenious Frenchman, M. Breugnot, who has succeeded in preparing a composition of metal, whose basis is zinc, upon which drawing and writing can be effected with equal, if not with greater facility than upon stone, and from which impressions can be as easily obtained. This new art has several advantages over lithography, amongst others the cheapness and portability of the plates as compared with stone. They can even be adapted to a lady's portfolio; and may be made of any thickness and size—a great desideratum in lithography.

*Prize Essays*.—Among the papers in the rooms of the British Association at Edinburgh was the subjoined:—“The Royal Irish Academy hereby gives notice, that for each of the three follow-



ing questions a gold medal will be awarded by the council of the Academy, to the author of the most approved of the essays furnished on the same question. First question, 'On the Analogies of Light and Heat.' Second question, 'On the state of Civilisation in Ireland between the fifth and twelfth centuries, as compared with neighbouring nations.' Third question, 'The influence of the Greek and Latin on the modern European languages of the Germanic families.' Essays to be received by the Rev. J. H. Singer, D.D., secretary of the Academy; or the Rev. R. McDonnell, D.D., secretary of council, at the Academy-House, previous to the first of October, 1835.

**Saxon Names of the Months.**—"Wolf-monat, or wolf-month; so called because in that month (January) the wolves were the most to be dreaded. *Spout-kele* (February), from the sprouting of the kele-wort, the ordinary pot-herb of the Saxons. *Lenct-monat* (March), because the days were lengthening. *Oster-monat* (April), whether from the easterly winds during that month, or from an ancient goddess, is perhaps doubtful. *Tri-milki* (May), because the cows were now milked three times a-day. *Weyd-monat* (June), because in this month the cattle were sent to wade in the marshes. *Hey-monat* (July), hay month. *Barn-monat* (August), from the gathering of the harvest into the barns. *Berst-monat* (September), beer or barley month. *Wyn-monat* (October), wine month, when the grapes were pressed. *Wint or winden-monat* (November), the wind month. *Winter-monat* (December), winter month."—*Cabinet Cyclopædia*.

**Starch.**—"The tax on starch (29s. per cwt.), although high, yields but very little revenue to the state. The importance of the use of starch in the linen, cotton, and lace manufactories, its being essential to health and cleanliness, and the utility of the manufacture in profitably consuming the damp or injured wheats unsuitable for human food, are strong reasons why this article should be freed from tax. The diminished cost of the article, when duty-free, would greatly economise the expenditure of families, who now use a more economical, but, in a national sense, more expensive substitute. By the abolition of this duty, those wasteful and ridiculous excise restrictions, which now prohibit the disposal of the brain or refuse in any other shape than in feeding swine or cattle on the premises, would cease to divert the attention and capital of the starch manufacturers from their proper object."—*Domestic and Financial Condition of Britain*.

"Delille was remarkable for his dislike to have the unwritten words which he was in the habit of declaiming committed to paper. One day this poet, who was blind, was reciting his compositions as usual, when Madame Dubourg, with whom he was on terms of great intimacy, took a small crow-quill and began writing very softly—not so softly, however, but that Monsieur Delille heard the scratching of the pen against the paper: continuing, however, in his usual tone of voice, instead of the lines that were expected from him, he said—

'Et tandis que je dis mes chefs-d'œuvre divers,  
Un corbeau devient pie, et me vole mes vers.'  
H. Buloz's *France*, &c.

**Having Command of the Rains.**—John Bax-

\* Lord Althorp seems on this subject to have coincided in opinion with the author, for he has repealed the duty on starch. *Après tout, non des bêtes, but des créatures*, is there not reason to fear that this will render us a more "stiff-necked generation" even than we have hitherto been? And ought not a Chancellor of the Exchequer to have deeply considered the effect which such a measure might have upon stocks?

ter advertises in the *Star* Guernsey newspaper, that he will be glad to let a house, with "bed-rooms, kitchen, a plentiful supply of rain-water, and other conveniences."

**With a Hook?**—The *Plymouth Herald* states that a young gentleman caught a large shark with a hook and line, while fishing off Charlestown, Cornwall.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

Mr. Allan Cunningham announces *Lives of the Poets*, from Chaucer to Coleridge—a work of an interesting nature, as the labours of Johnson extend only from the days of Cowley to those of Gray, omitting many authors who flourished within that period. The volumes will appear periodically, illustrated with portraits.

A translation of Andreïenne's Narrative of a Captivity in the Fortress of Spielberg, from the pen of Mr. Koscoe. The History of Evesham, its Benedictine Monastery, Conventual Church, Extant Edifices, Municipal Institutions, &c. &c. by George May.

Mr. Sharon Turner is preparing a second volume of his *Sacred History*.

In the Press.

Observations on the Preservation of Hearing, &c., by J. H. Curtis, Aurist to the King.  
Heath's Picturesque Annual, with Illustrations from Drawings by Cattermole.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Canivill's Pathological Anatomy, Part VI., 15s. sewed.—Pearson's Syllabus of Algebra, 7s. 6d. bds.—Jacob Faithful, by the Author of "Peter Simple," &c. 3 vols. post 8vo. 17. 11s. 6d. bds.—Tacitus, from the Text of Brotier, with his explanatory Notes (as edited by T. J. Valpy, M.A.), Translated into English, 3 vols. post 8vo. 24s. bds.—Tableau Synoptique et Simplifié, de la Conjugalité des Verbes Français, par L. S. Lucet, on a sheet, 3s.—An Essay on the Archæology of Popular English Phrases and Nursery Rhymes, by J. Belenden Ker, Esq., 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.—The Naval Officer's Guide for preparing Ships for Sea, by C. Martelli, post 8vo. 9s. bds.—The Angler in Ireland, or an Englishman's Ramble through Connaught and Munster, during the Summer of 1833, 9 vols. post 8vo. 21s. bds.—A Review of the Chancery Peccage Case, and of the Pretensions of Sir Egerton Brydges, Bart, by G. F. Belz, Esq., 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Guide de L'Étranger à Londres, et dans ses Environs, 18mo. 7s. 6d. cloth.—Everett's Panorama of Manchester, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—The Science of Legal Judgment, by James Ray, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—Panorama of Rome and its Environs, plain, 11. 11s. 6d.; coloured, 21. 12s. 6d. bds.—View of the Origin and Migrations of the Polyneesian Nation, by J. D. Lang, M.D., post 8vo. 7s. 6d. bds.—Every Family's Domestic Medicine Book, 18mo. 1s. 6d. sewed.—The Nervous System, Anatomical and Physiological, being the First Vol. of an Original System of Physiology, by Alexander Walker, 8vo. 18s. bds.—The Exiles of Chiamounie, by C. D. Silley, 24mo. 2s. 6d. cloth.—Two Lectures on Taste, by James Carter, 12mo. 3s. 6d. bds.—Notitia Lude, or Notices of Louth, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—The Fall of Man, and his Redemption, &c., 12mo. 4s. 6d. bds.—The Book of Manners, or Parent's Best Friend, 18mo. 1s. 6d. sewed.

#### METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1834.

September.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday... 11	From 51 to 59	29.71 to 29.92
Friday... 12	50 to 65	29.90 to 30.13
Saturday... 13	41 to 66	30.17 to 30.24
Sunday... 14	40 to 67	30.23 to 30.29
Monday... 15	39 to 67	30.25 to 30.21
Tuesday... 16	40 to 68	30.14 to 30.04
Wednesday 17	39 to 71	29.91 to 29.93

Wind variable, S.W. and N.E. prevailing.  
Frequent rain during the 11th; the 12th generally cloudy, with occasional intervals of sunshine: since the 12th, except the mornings of the 16th and 17th, generally clear.

Rain fallen, 2 of an inch.  
Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.  
Latitude..... 51° 37' 32" N.  
Longitude..... 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The space devoted to our account of the proceedings of the British Association again compels us to postpone several articles; but we trust the interest attached to the subject, and our anxiety to make the *Gazette* generally entertaining, will render our present No. not less satisfactory than our last, which, we are pleased to hear, was, at the crowded and heated evening assemblies of the Association, very warmly commended.

Answers to several Correspondents also deferred. We cannot comply with Mr. O'Brien's request.

**ERRATA.**—In our last, page 618, col. 1, for "Vlastos," read "Vlastos."—For "Andredie," read "Andredie."—"Sedgwick" always instead of "Sedgewick."—Page 623, for "Jenynus," read "Jenyns"; col. 2, line 2 from the bottom, after the word "right," insert "if not carried too far," which, in fact they, in our opinion and the opinion of many others, afterwards were.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS,

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

#### JUNIOR SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Read Matters.

T. HEWITT KEY, M.A. Professor of Latin.  
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The School will be re-open on Tuesday, September the 23d. Arrangements are made by which a regular course of instruction and Employment will be provided for Pupils, whose parents do not wish them to learn Latin or Greek; so that a boy may be entered either as a Classical or a Non-Classical Pupil. Fee, 15s. per Annum. 5s. are to be paid at the commencement of each of the three Terms.  
Boarders are received by Mr. Haselwood, 20 Upper Gower Street.  
August 1034. THOMAS COATES, Secretary.

#### KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.

Senior Department.—The Classes in Theology, the Classics, Mathematics, English Literature, and History, under the superintendence of the Principal and Professors the Rev. T. G. Hall and John Ansell, will be re-opened on Wednesday, the 1st of October next.

The Classes for Private Instruction in Hebrew, the Oriental, and other Foreign Languages, will re-commence on the same day.  
Medical School.—The Courses of Lectures will commence on Wednesday, the 1st of October next, when an opening Lecture will be delivered by Professor Mayo.  
September 1834. W. OTTER, M.A. Principal.

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